Records of Fort St. George.

- DIARY -

AND

CONSULTATION BOOK

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

1752.

MADRAS:
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PREFATORY NOTE.

This reprint of a volume of the records of Fort St. George has been undertaken in accordance with the decision of the Government of Madras to publish the records of the seventeenth and the eighteenth centuries *in extenso*, as explained in the prefatory note to the Diary and Consultation Book for 1672–1678.

This volume has been given priority as it is required to complete the records of the India Office.

MADRAS,
21st February 1910.

C. M. SCHMIDT,
Officer in charge, Madras Record Office.

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RECORDS OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

DIARY AND CONSULTATION BOOK

OF

1752

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

——FORT ST. DAVID, JANUARY 1752.——

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE, CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY, GEORGE PIGOT
ALEXANDER WYNCH

A Letter receiv'd from Captain Gingins of the 17th advising of a Skirmish having happen'd at Cartellum, whither Captain Cope had been sent with a Command and was wounded though imagin'd not dangerously and we had lost only two Men and had six wounded besides Mr St Felix a Voluntier but that of the Enemy fourteen were cut off by the Morattas among which a Captain. A Letter from Captain Cope also receiv'd reciting the above Accident & desiring Leave to return hither which is comply'd with **Monday the 17th**

THOS. SAUNDERS
RICHD. STARKE
CHAS. BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR. WYNCH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR., GOVR. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE, CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY, GEORGE PIGOT
ALEXANDER WYNCH

A Letter from the Deputy Governour to the President of the 25th [read giving] an account that a Party of the Enemy had been at the Mount and Marmelon which they had plunder'd of all the Furniture left in the Gentlemen's Houses there and carried the same to Pondicherry, that as he believ'd their Force was superiour to

—*FORT S^T. DAVID, JANUARY 1752.*—

ours at Madrass, he desir'd a Supply of Military and Seapoys might be sent him as he was very apprehensive of their Approach and should they make any Attempt upon the Black Town and Pettahs their defenceless Condition would put it out of their power to prevent their being plunder'd which as we have a bare Sufficiency of Men here for the Defence of this place and not near equal to the Number they have at present in the Field and their Garrisons, it is judg'd imprudent to be comply'd with.

THO^S. SAUNDERS
RICH^D. STARKE
CHA^S. BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
A^R. WYNCH.

FEBRUARY 1752.

Monday the 3d — A Letter receiv'd from Captain Gingins of the 28th Ultimo, advising that the Mysore King and Moraree arriv'd there the 26th with a few Horse and he had been inform'd by a Letter from Captain Dalton who on the Accident to Captain Cope had been sent to Cartellum that he was on his March with the rest of the Mysore Army towards Trichinopoly and as some of their Horse were then just arriv'd there, he expected them on the next Day.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE, CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY, GEORGE PIGOT
ALEXANDER WYNCH

It being debated what Measures it may be necessary to pursue to protect the Bounds of Poonamalee & St Thomé from the ravages of the Enemy and keep them at a greater Distance, as it is very certain there are none can be undertaken with any hopes of Success without having a Body of Horse in our Service, it being impossible to march out after them with Infantry as they chiefly consist of Cavalry and though the Nabob has been often importun'd on that Head and promis'd to send a Detachment, yet we have but small Expectations of receiving any from him, it's judg'd highly expedient to raise a Body of Black Horse and to bring the Charge of them to his Account, as it will be more for his Benefit than our own by giving us we hope an Opportunity of extirpating the Enemy, wherefore it's Agreed as we understand young Chunda's People are very indifferently paid and may be easily prevail'd on to come over to us, that we give Directions to the Gentlemen at Madrass to use their Endeavours for that End and to enlist as many others as they can procure and that as soon as they have a Body sufficient to take the Field with, Captain Clive be desir'd to hold himself in readiness and if he thinks he has a Force strong enough, to use his Endeavours to drive the Enemy entirely from those parts.

THO^S. SAUNDERS
RICH^D. STARKE
CHA^S. BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
[A^R. WYNCH]

Thursday the 6th — A Letter receiv'd from Captain Gingins of the 2^d advises that he designs moving in a day or two if the Morattas and Mysore People are ready to accompany him into

——*FORT ST. DAVID, FEBRUARY 1752.*——

the Rear of the Enemy with half his Force whereby their Supplies of all Kinds will be cut off having detach'd a Party of Morattas towards Outatoor and he shall oblige them to come to an Action who are intrench'd in their Camp up to their Teeth and therefore it is impracticable to attack them there, he also mentions that Captain Cope's Wound was so dangerous that his Life was despair'd of

A Letter receiv'd from Captain Gingins of the 4th giving an account of the Death of Captain Cope the day before whereupon it is judg'd proper to order Captain Kilpatrick to return hither from Madrass to proceed to Trichinopoly as the Number of Captains there is but few. **Monday the 10th**

At a Consultation ***Present***

Thomas Saunders Esqr. Govr., President.
Richard Starke, Charles Boddam
Henry Powney, George Pigot,
Alexander Wynch

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Salabat Jung as enter'd hereafter, exhorting us to quit Mahomed Ally's Interest as He is a Rebel, and to espouse that of Chunda Saib and on his Arrival in these parts which will be shortly, he intends bestowing on us such Favours as will gain us great Repute among the other European Nations, which by the Confession of the Hircars coming from Pondicherry we can't help entertaining some doubts with Regard to it's being really wrote by Salabat Jung therefore judge it proper to request of him to send such Letters as he may please to favour us with in future by our own People that we may be satisfied of their being authentick.

The Porto Bello Sloop being so much in want of Repair as to render it necessary She should go somewhere to refit, It's Agreed to send her to Pegu for that Purpose and as we have undoubted Information that the French have lately got Permission to establish a Factory and hoist their Colours there, and have not been wanting in their Endeavours to supplant us in the Esteem of that Nation, that we take the Opportunity by her of resettling our Affairs at that Place upon the best Footing we can to prevent as much as we are able the French from encroaching upon our Trade and if possible to procure a Grant for the little Negraes as we understand they have some Intentions of settling there and Mr Robert Westgarth at present at Pegu bearing the Character of a sober and diligent Man, that we appoint him our Resident and entrust him with the Management of these Matters.

Thos. Saunders
Richd. Starke
Chas. Boddam
Henry Powney
Ar. Wynch

At a Consultation *Present*

Thomas Saunders Esqr. Govr. President
Charles Boddam, Henry Powney
George Pigot, Alexander Wynch

The President produces to the Board two Letters from Capt. Clive dated 10th & 11th Instant advising that he had taken upon him the Command of the Army at Madrass and had been join'd by part of the Bengal Detachment that were arriv'd **Monday the 17th**

——*FORT S^{T.} DAVID, FEBRUARY 1752.*——

from thence on the Ship Fort St. David but was apprehensive of not meeting with any Arms, therefore requests a Supply having rais'd about five hundred Seapoys for whom he is in want of them. That he was then encamp'd in a very strong Situation at the little Mount and the Enemy were about seven Miles distant whose Strength from an exact Account he had procur'd consisted of about fourteen hundred Seapoys Matchlocks &ca, & about the same Number of Horse, though only six hundred were esteem'd good, thirty Europeans, eighty Topasses, with eight small Field Pieces and two Tomans.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY
GEORGE PIGOT, ALEXANDER WYNCH

Monday the 24th. The President lays before the Board two Letters he has receiv'd from Captain Clive dated the 15th & 20th Instant the most material Part of which is vizt That he has receiv'd a Letter from Captain De Gingins representing how necessary a Step his proceeding to Trichinopoly will be; that Captain Kilpatrick had join'd him from Arcot by which with the Bengal Detachment his Party [con]sisted of four hundred Military & Train, Thirteen hundred Seapoys besides Matchlocks and 120 Horse which last he found great Difficulty in raising as Money would not do it; that he should do his utmost to bring the Enemy to an Engagement, if the Strength of their Situation did not render it imprudent to attack them in it, in which Case he thinks it will be best to come this way in order to proceed to Trichinopoly to join Captain DeGingins and if he can be strongly reinforc'd with Military from hence, DeveCotah and Chellumbrum, is of Opinion it will soon put an End to the Disturbances of the Province, and that he designs leaving behind him for the protection of Madrass about sixty Military, some Horse and Seapoys.

The President likewise lays before them a Letter he wrote Captain Clive of the 22d Instant in answer thereto, the purport of which is as follows; To consult with the Deputy Governour what Force it may be necessary to leave for the Security of Madrass, that the Force we have already at Trichinopoly is reported to be far superiour to the Enemy's and Captain Gingins had wrote his Intentions were to move with half of it when there were no Thoughts of his Reinforcement, therefore three hundred Rank & File Men, with Seapoys and some Horse, He was of Opinion would be sufficient for his Expedition thither, recommending to him to engage young Chunda if possible, as should we succeed it will be of great Service, directing him to furnish himself with every thing he judges he shall require for his Expedition and as Officers will be wanting Captains Kilpatrick and Campbell are to go to Trichinopoly—which the Board approve of.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH.

——*FORT ST. DAVID, MARCH 1752.*——

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR.:, PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY
GEORGE PIGOT, ALEXANDER WYNCH.

The President lays before the Board three Letters receiv'd from Captain Clive since last meeting dated the 24th, 26th & 29th Ultimo, the chief Purport of which are Viz; Of the first, that the Enemy had quitted their Camp though an extreme strong Situation, even so much so that he could never have ventur'd to have attack'd them in it, therefore intended to have march'd this way; Of the second, that receiving Information they were gone towards Arcot and had a Design upon that Place, He apprehended Treachery from Murtaz Ally Cawn and had march'd after them with the utmost Haste, and of the last that the Enemy having possess'd themselves of a strong Spot of Ground near Covrepauk, an Engagement ensued wherein they were entirely defeated, an Aid Major, thirty nine French and eighteen Topasses made Prisoners, all their Cannon, eight large Tumbrills of Ammunition, above two hundred Barrels of Gunpowder taken with a Number of Carriage Bullocks and every thing else they had belonging to them, and had it not been late in the Evening not a single Man would have escap'd. That the Head Jemidar of Chunda's Horse was kill'd and a great many French, and our Loss had been pretty considerable besides Ensign Keene, and Mr Preston, a Voluntier wounded, He also mentions that in his way thither, he had taken Conjeveram with fifteen Topasses and sixty Seapoys with very good Arms. Monday the 2d.

The President also produces Draught of a Letter from him to Captain Clive in answer to the foregoing, the Contents whereof are as follows; Recommending the Disposal of the Prisoners in such a Manner that they may not act against the Nabob again in the Field or in Garrison and to lodge them at Arcot or under Sumpetrow's Direction at Madrass, but if possible to avoid the latter, lest it should give Umbrage, directing him to send into Madrass all the Cannon & Warlike Stores he has now taken as well as what may be superfluous at Arcot and be expeditious therein—To leave a Force at all Events at Madrass and to send immediate Advice of his further Designs; which the Board approve of

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHASS.: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY

AR WYNCH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR., PRESIDENT.
CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY
GEORGE PIGOT, ALEXANDER WYNCH

Monday the 9th.

Sundry Letters from Captain Clive to the President are produc'd to the Board and read and the most material part of them as follows; The first is dated the 2d Instant at Arcot, gives a more particular Account of the late Action and that he had left a Party to watch the Prisoners at Covrepauk, that having Intelligence some Money, Elephants and all young Chunda's Baggage was left at Vellour Pettah he had sent to demand them of Moortaz Ally Cawn and intended proceeding thither the next Morning to look after them, and after refreshing his People a little should set out for this Place. The second dated the 7th Instant that he is on his March hither, and on his approaching Chetteput young Chunda retir'd to Gingee and from thence to Pondicherry, that he was encamp'd to the Eastwd of Gingee, and

hop'd to be within ten or twelve Miles of Pondicherry today. The last dated yesterday, that he should immediately dispatch a Letter to Lieut^t Grenville at Arcot to send the Cannon &c^a to Fort St George but was apprehensive the Difficulty he found himself in transporting them thither from Covrepauk would prevent his getting Cooleys to draw them; that judging it unnecessary on account of the Enemy's Defeat he had not dispatch'd any Men to Madrass and was then encamp'd on the Ground where Nazir Jung was cut off, in commemoration whereof a very fine Choultry was erected and a Village which Monument of Villainy he designs destroying and expected to be here the 11th.

THO^S. SAUNDERS
CHA^S: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY

A^R. WYNCH.

11th At about 5 this Afternoon arriv'd Captain Clive with the Forces under his Command at Trivendupuram where they encamp'd and Orders were immediately issued out for bringing in all such Necessaries as were in want of Repair and to get the same done as soon as possible, also that the necessary Supplies of Ammunition &c^a for the use of the Camp be got ready with the greatest Expedition.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R. PRESIDENT
WILLIAM COCKELL, STRINGER LAWRENCE
WILLIAM KINNEER, CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY, ALEXANDER WYNCH

Monday the 16th. The Military being very well refresh'd and the Stores for the Camp all ready, Order'd that the Forces march to morrow Evening to join the Army at Trichinopoly and Major Lawrence acquainting the Board that if agreeable to them he purposes proceeding with the Troops and taking upon him the Command of the whole when he gets there, the Board entirely concur therein and his Instructions being accordingly draughted out are read approv'd and ordered to be transcrib'd—Copy whereof follows.

TO STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^R.

COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES

IN INDIA.

Sir

Having appointed You to the Command of the Troops at Trichinopoly, you will proceed there with the Reinforcement now put under your Direction; The Situation of the Nabobs as well as the Enemy's Force you will soon be acquainted with by the Representation of the Officer on Command, the former must be greatly superiour. We would by all means have You press an Engagement as soon as possible, this we are strongly induc'd to from a certain Knowledge that they have apply'd to Salabat Jung for a strong Reinforcement which may be reasonably expected to arrive soon as well as their Ships from Europe. Should you prove successful, very probably the Enemy must abandon their Cannon &c^a which by all Accounts is considerable; The Passions of the Moors are ever fluctuating, their Friendship and Alliance not to be depended

on, We therefore, after providing in a reasonable Manner for the Security of Trichinopoly, think it would be prudent to send them to DeveCotah as the leaving them there might prove a Disadvantage to us; Should the Enemy have address enough to secure a Retreat, you will be mindful that our Garrisons here and at Fort St George are weak, and take such Measures as may prevent them doing harm to our Districts; The Nabob's Allies consisting of several Countries whose Customs are greatly different from ours we must particularly recommend You as much possible promote a Harmony. Write us constantly the material that we may give you the proper Assistance. On your Departure from Trichinopoly you will leave such a Force as you judge necessary for the Security of that Place. We are

Fort St. David ;Sir

17th. March 1752. Your most Humble Servants

THOMAS SAUNDERS
WILLIAM COCKELL
WILLIAM KINNEER
CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Agreed that by the first Sea Opportunity the Deputy Governour and Council of Fort St George be furnish'd with an Extract of our Honble Masters separate Commands by the Durrington concerning the pulling down the Portugueze Church there and directed to put the same in Execution without Loss of Time.

THOS. SAUNDERS

CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY

AR. WYNCH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
WILLIAM COCKELL
WILLIAM KINNEER CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY ALEXANDER WYNCH
Major Lawrence at Camp Monday the 30th.

The President lays before the Board for their Perusal two Letters he has receiv'd from Major Lawrence and one wrote to him since he left us; the Contents of which are as follow, Of those from Major Lawrence dated 25th & 26th Instant, that he had sent Captain Clive on his being near Tanjour to wait upon the King, who treated him very handsomely, gave him great Assurances of his Regard for the Company and Heartiness in the present Alliance and express'd a Desire to continue always upon the same good Terms with the English. That he had been inform'd Chunda's Camp was reinforc'd with a hundred Europeans, seven hundred Seapoys and four Camels loaded with Money which Addition he is of Opinion does not yet make them formidable. That he should make what haste he could to Trichinopoly when he shall give his Opinion of the Enemy's Situation and the Designs on them. The Purport of the

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1752.*——

Letter to Major Lawrence dated the 29th is that it was reported a Party of a thousand French and three hundred Seapoys were at a small Fort between Wolconda & Wootatoor and ten French and a hundred Seapoys had been detach'd from Pondicherry to them.

Major Lawrence having desir'd to be inform'd in what Manner he is to carry on his Camp Correspondence, whether he is to address all his Letters to the Board or when the Presidency is remov'd, as the Distance will be so much greater, if in Cases of Emergency, Writing to the Deputy Governour will not be the same Thing. The Board are of Opinion that addressing the President when at Fort St. George and the Deputy Governour here will be sufficient as they are of the private Committee and when any thing material may occur necessary for the Board to be acquainted with, will communicate the same; and the President is desir'd to advise Major Lawrence thereof

THOS. SAUNDERS

CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR. WYNCH

By the Company's Orders receiv'd ℔ Ship Durrington the Presidency is now remov'd to

——*FORT ST GEORGE.*——

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE
THOMAS COOKE JOHN SMITH

Monday the 13th. April

Major Kinneer Absent on Duty

The President lays before the Board for their perusal the Letters he has receiv'd from and one wrote to Major Lawrence since his Arrival here, the former are dated the 30th Ultimo and 1st & 4th Instant, Giving an account that there have been several Skirmishes with the Enemy who by all Accounts have suffer'd considerably, that Aulem Cawn a Principal Man among them is kill'd and that they had thought proper on meeting with a little Disturbance from us to remove to Syringam Island near the Pagoda and were encamp'd on the Banks of the Calderoon, that he intended distressing them as much as possible by sending Captain Clive with a very considerable Force to Samoyeveram a Place in their Rear to intercept all Convoys and prevent their geting off that Way and should continue himself at Trichinopoly to observe their Motions and give them all the Disturbance in his Power from thence, that two French Prisoners had been taken and three Deserters from them were come over to us from whom they learnt several more had the same Intentions That as he found the want of Battering Cannon he design'd sending for two to Devecotah with some Shott and Powder which he hopes will be approv'd of. Representing he is in great Distress for Money, the Nabob having none nor will the King of Mysore lend him any, wherefore thinks it highly necessary some Expedient should be found for supplying him for the speedy Payment of the Troops and in the interim he will endeavour to get what he can from Buckunjee; Requesting Information if it would be attended with any Detriment to the Company's Affairs to send threatening Letters to the Poligars to deter them from assisting the Enemy as they receive all their Provisions from Torror and Worriarpollam and mentioning his having appointed Lieutt. Ripington to the Grenadier Company which he hopes will meet with Approbation. The Purport of the Letter to the Major dated the 9th Instant is as follows, that

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1752.*——

Mr Cockell will write a threatening Letter to the Worriar of Worriarpollam, whose Interest it is to regard it. That Sumpetrow having received certain Advices that seventeen thousand Horse are detach'd from Aurungabad to the Enemy's Assistance, which seems probable, an Enagement is necessary as soon as it can be effected with prudence; To press the Nabob for Money who told us the King of Mysore would furnish what we advanc'd for him, and to intimate the Impossibility of carrying on his Affairs without it, which meets with the Board's Concurrence.

Our Disbursements on the Nabob's Account being to a considerable Amount and of late but trifling Sums have been receiv'd from him notwithstanding he has now in his Possession large Districts hereabouts and says he has given Directions to his People in the Management of them to pay a Part of their Produce towards discharging his Debt to the Company. It's Judg'd proper to remind him thereof and the President is desir'd to write to him about it.

Ensign Keene and Mr Preston who were both wounded in the Engagement at Covrepauk and are not yet recover'd being on their Return hither from Arcot; as there will be only one Officer left there It's thought necessary to order Capt Robert Saunderson to the Command of that Garrison.

The President now lays before the Board Mr Dupleix's long Letter to him dated the 18th February with its Translate which being a Narrative of Affairs since the Commencement of the late Revolution in the Country is Order'd to lay on the Table for the Perusal of the several Members and to be enter'd in the Book of French Correspondence (under No. 1) for our Honble Master's Inspection.

THOS. SAUNDERS
RICHD. STARKE

JOHN SMITH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR : GOVR. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE WILLIAM KINNEER
THOMAS COOKE JOHN SMITH

Monday the 20th.

The President produces the Letters he has receiv'd from and wrote to Camp and the Officers on Detachment since last Consultation vizt Three from Major Lawrence and Copy of one from him to Mr. Cockell, giving an account of the Enemy's being dispossess'd of several of their Advanc'd Posts and their Communication effectually cut off, which has greatly embarrass'd them and from the Accounts he has of their Distresses concludes they will attempt to move soon but is of Opinion sufficient Care has been taken to prevent a Man of them from geting to Pondicherry or Karical, that they are situated in two strong Pagodas to force which would require heavy Cannon and proceeding in form, but as he is persuaded they can't stay long he designs watching their Motions and making their Situation as uneasy as possible; That Captain Clive had taken a Place with a very considerable Quantity of Paddy in it call'd Lalgoody of great Consequence, whereby their Provisions were all convey'd to them, of which they are now in the greatest Want as Deserters report. That they had Intelligence a Party from Pondicherry consisting of twenty French, two hundred Seapoys and as many Horse were arriv'd at Wolcondah with three Lacks of Rupees and a Quantity of Ammunition where they stopp'd on the News of the Capture of Lalgoody, That the Roads are so well invested with our People there is the greatest Reason to hope the Men and Convoy will fall into our Hands if they march which their Want of Money must force them to attempt.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, APRIL 1752.*——

Three from Lieut^t. Grenville Commanding Officer at Arcot, advising that a Party of the Enemy consisting of four hundred Seapoys, four hundred Pollygar Peons, two hundred Horse, some Coffrees and Europeans with two Field Pieces have taken the Town of Trivitore, wherein we had twelve Military, a hundred Seapoys and the same Number of Polygar Peons but he has not heard that any of them are made Prisoners; He is convinc'd nothing can be done without a European Force to head the Nabob's People and is apprehensive the Enemy will therefore not only raise Contributions but make themselves Masters of several other Places. That he had concerted a Scheme with the Nabob's Deputy to retake Trivitore who promis'd to assist him but after marching out in Expectation of being join'd by his Forces, He found himself deceiv'd and no Argument could prevail on those People to accompany him, insisting on being first paid, especially the Morattas, which being out of his Power to comply with, having no Money to give them he was oblig'd to return back to the Fort. From whence and other Circumstances he is certain, no Dependance can be put on the Nabob's Forces, The Deputy always urging he has no Money when they ask for their Arrears and therefore concludes it will be out of his Power to do the Nabob any Service thereabouts; but had they assisted him in the Manner he desir'd he makes no doubt he should have succeeded not only in retaking the Place but making Prisoners of every one in it

The Letters wrote by the President are as follow

One to Major Lawrence representing that the Nabob is apprehensive of the Enemy's retreating to Syringham which by report having been their Magazine for Provisions and Stores it may be found better provided than imagin'd to be and that it is extremely plain they will endeavour to shelter themselves 'till reinforc'd which we must try to prevent.

One to Lieut^t Grenville directing him to send his Pay Rolls to the Paymaster & draw on him for the amount, to procure what Money he can from the Amuldars for defraying the Batta and other incident Charges by threatening him to leave the Place if he don't furnish it. To send in his Accounts & Returns monthly; To give Advice of any thing that occurs and how the thousand Moratta Horse are dispos'd and be very circumspect in regard to the French Prisoners.

Which the Board approve.

THO^S. SAUNDERS
RICH^D. STARKE

JOHN SMITH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R: PRESIDENT

RICHARD STARKE	WILLIAM KINNEER
THOMAS COOKE	JOHN SMITH

Monday the 27th

The Camp Correspondence since last Consultat^n is produc'd and consists of Viz^t

Two Letters from Major Lawrence with Copy of one from him to Mr Cockell advising that Captain Clive had receiv'd Information a Party of the Enemy were at Outatoor with Provisions and Money on their March to Syringham and set out to attack them, but they being appriz'd of his coming went back, whereupon he made a Forc'd March and return'd to his Post at Samoyeveram, That the Enemy's Army having Intelligence of his being set out but no news of his Retreat made an Attempt with a strong Party to possess themselves of Samoyeveram, wherein they not only luckily miscarried but all surrender'd Prisoners at Discretion to Captain Clive, in number two Officers and sixty four private Men Europeans, besides which five

hundred of their Seapoys and several Europeans were cut to Pieces by the Morattas in attempting to escape, That 600 Stand of Arms & two Colours were taken and among the Prisoners were twenty two English Men, Deserters, with one Kelsal who had been made an Officer and was order'd to be instantly hang'd with the Hircar that had been their Guide. They likewise mention that above half the Enemy's Force is destroyed and the rest so coop'd up that they cannot escape which has induc'd the Nabob to write to Chunda & Mr Law to surrender themselves Prisoners, otherwise when they fall into his Hands He will give them no Quarter, That they are continually harrass'd by our Troops & He (the Major) hopes soon to advise of their total Overthrow; But as they keep close to the Pagoda and would not stir out when our Forces march'd across the Island a few days before to conduct Captain Clive's Prisoners to Trichinopoly which was done with a Design to draw them out to an Engagement, He imagines they are determin'd to continue in that Situation and as their Numbers are much reduc'd and their Provisions may last them a long time, nothing can be attempted against the Place without Battering Cannon, but should they endeavour to get off, He is persuaded he shall be able to give a good Account of them.

Several Letters from Lieutt Grenville at Arcot who writes he has Intelligence that the Enemy from Trivitore are marching towards Muslebaucum with Cannon, whither he has sent a Reinforcement of Seapoys; that should they move his way, he intends marching out at the Head of some of his Forces, but otherwise will leave the Command to a Serjeant as he thinks it absolutely necessary to have a Force abroad, to prevent his Communication being cut off; complains greatly that the Nabob's People and Morattas are so wretchedly paid, he can't prevail on them to give him the least Assistance, and as several were inclin'd to leave him on that Account, He had lent the Nabob's Deputy five hundred (500) Pagodas on promise of Repayment in few days, to discharge some of their Arrears.

A Letter from the President to Major Lawrence dated the 26th is also read, giving it as his Opinion that as the Enemy are now very advantagiously Situated and well supplied with Stores and Provisions, nothing can be done but to ferret them out. That as the Rainy Season approaches and will swell the Calderoon & Covaree, He apprehends their Strength will be the greater and also mentions that it's said Chunda is attempting to buy off the Morattas which he imagines he will not succeed in as they are in the Mysore King's Pay, and desires he may be acquainted if the Enemy continue Possession of their old Camp.

Which meets with the Board's Concurrence.

THOS. SAUNDERS
RICHD. STARKE
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR., GOVR. PRESIDENT.

RICHARD STARKE	WILLIAM KINNEER
THOMAS COOKE	JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 4th.

The Letters from Major Lawrence and the Officers on Command are now produc'd and read vizt

Two from Major Lawrence mentioning he has receiv'd a Bill from Mr Cockell for eight thousand (8000) Pagodas, which will enable him to carry on Affairs for about a Month or five Weeks; He shall take every prudential Method to lessen Expences, and represent to the Nabob the Impossibility of the Company's advancing such large Sums on his Account which however he now thinks there is a Prospect that the Nabob will have it in his Power to reimburse them, the Enemy having surrender'd Coiladdy a Place of the utmost Consequence to them and are now block'd up on

——FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE, MAY 1752.——

all sides; That he has mention'd to the Mysore King the absolute Necessity there was for his supplying Money as it was in his Power to finish the War when he pleas'd which he hopes will meet with the desir'd Effect; that they are actually concerting Measures for a General Action which he expects to send Word of in less than five Days, and by an intercepted Letter from a French Officer has Intelligence there is a Grand Army near Arcot but supposes such a Thing could not be without the President's Knowledge and the Letter wrote only with a View to spirit up the People in Coiladdy. That from the great want of Money ever since his being there he has been under a Necessity of borrowing at different Times from Boocunjee to the amount of twenty thousand (20000) Rupees which he has given him a Bill for on the Company and though it may appear large, the Accounts will shew the absolute Occasion for it.

From Lieutenant Grenville at Arcot, advising that the Party he sent out join'd by a Force from Conjeveram had reliev'd Muslebaucum and drove the Enemy to Trivitore which place he had an Intention to attempt the Relief of likewise but was prevented by the Killedar of Conjeveram refusing to assist him with part of his Garrison in consequence of orders from hence & 'till a Party he said we should send had join'd him; That he has Intelligence the Enemy have about four hundred People at Trivitore and are collecting more at Chetteput and Ammunition from Pondicherry, That the Nabob's Forces there besides the Morattas amount to upwards of five hundred Horse and a hundred & fifty Seapoys but are so extremely ill paid no Great Dependence can be put on them; That Lawla the Nabob's Deputy is a very improper Person to manage Affairs being very indolent and has to Appearance very little Interest there.

From Captain Sanderson and Lieut^{t}. Smith at Poonamalee giving an Account that there is Intelligence of the Enemy's being near Conjeveram with some Europeans, Seapoys & Horse and that a few days past there had been a Skirmish between them and our People in which some were kill'd and wounded on both Sides; That Captain Sanderson has endeavour'd to reduce the Seapoys according to order to Half Batta during their Stay there, but they declare they will not serve without they are paid in full; That they have no Buzzar there and having rec[eived] Major Kinneer's Orders to give the Military no Provisions af[ter] the 1st of the Month, They were at a Loss how to supply thems[elves] and in danger of being starv'd, which renders it necessary Ord[er] should be given that they may not want.

The several Letters from the President a[re] also produc'd & read and contain as follows vizt

To Major Lawrence acquainting him that by a Letter receiv'd from the Nabob, He seems desirous of an Engagement, that in regard to Money Affairs he can say no more than that we are not able to support so great an Expence, That Sumpetrow on his Arrival had told him a Detachment was set out from Salabat Jung and had lately repeated the same with an Addition that a Disagreement had arisen and Ramdoss Punt with three French Officers were kill'd which it was thought would prevent their coming any further, But as Sumpetrow had often deceiv'd him he can give no Credit to it, and the French report a Detachment to be certainly on the March.

The President lays also before the Board a Letter he has receiv'd from Mr Dupliex dated the 4th Instant on the Subject of a Deserter from us who had been taken and executed at Trichinopoly by Major Lawrence's Order as he asserts, whom and the President He makes answerable for the Consequence of that Proceeding as he had been made an Officer in their Service; He also complains of ill Treatment to an Officer that had been made Prisoner at Trichinopoly and that the Terms of Capitulation made by a Party of their Forces at the Surrender of an Outpost there had been no ways regarded as these are Circumstances we are not thoroughly acquainted with, we think it proper to defer giving any answer to them for the present.

THO$^{S.}$ SAUNDERS
RICH$^{D.}$ STARKE
JOHN SMITH.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1752.*——

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*
THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE, WILLIAM KINNEER
ALEXANDER WYNCH, THOMAS COOKE
JOHN SMITH

Monday The 11th.

The Military Correspondence since last Consultation is now laid before the Board and read as follows.

Several Letters from Major Lawrence at Trichinopoly which mention that his Opinion in regard to the Enemy's Situation is, they are very strong and at first design'd to wait there for a Reinforcement but imagines from the repeated Accounts of Deserters who come over to us every day of their great Distress in every Respect that they now wish they had never gone there; that he has neglected no means to attack & destroy them and on the 27th made such a Disposition as he is perswaded would have brought them out to a General Engagement or shut them up within the Pagoda had not a heavy Shower of Rain prevented it, and as soon as the Weather will permit has another Scheme to put in Practice which in all Probability will put them in our Power, That they have no Posts on that Side the Covaree and a Detachment of a hundred and fifty Europeans some Seapoys & Horse being sent to Outatoor to dislodge Mr. Dauteuil after a trifling Engagement in which Ensign Cooper & three Men were wounded took the Place, the Enemy having abandon'd it in the Night & fled to Wolcondah where the Horse went in pursuit of them; That this Action will be not only a great Addition to their Distress, but will certainly raise the Nabob's Interest in the Country and should other Methods fail, at worst we can attack them in the Pagoda before fresh Force joins them; That in regard to the Morattas it is both the Nabob's and his own Opinion they are not to be brib'd, and in all their Actions have shew'd their Fidelity, being the only Horse we have to be depended on, That their General Morarow has sent a Person of Distinction hither to the amount of as far as 5000 Rupees, and he thinks it may be for the publick Advantage to receive him well and that Monsr Silvaiguer a French Officer made a Prisoner had the Nabob's Leave to go and was set out for Pondicherry on his Parole of Honour not to serve against him or his Allies 'till he is regularly exchang'd.

A Letter from Capt. Sanderson at Poonamalee advising that he is inform'd the Enemy have two Field Pieces, twenty five Europeans, four hundred Seapoys and as many Horse and as soon as he receives his Orders for marching, is perswaded he shall have it in his Power to give a good account of them.

The President at the same time acquaints the Board of the Receipt of another Letter from Mr. Dupliex dated the 18th Instant NS. as enter'd in the French Correspondence No 3, which being produc'd & read, The Contents of it are on the same Subject as the last, accuse Mr. Lawrence of having acted in an unwarrantable Manner in the Execution of the Deserter Kelsey, demand his being sent to Europe on the first Ship to answer it and protest against the President for the Consequences his Refusal may produce and at the same time he incloses two Papers in support of what he asserts; As we yet remain in suspence in regard to these Particulars it's judg'd necessary to wait a little Longer before we make Mr Dupliex any Reply but think the Major should be immediately advis'd of what is laid to his Charge and a Letter from the President to him is now draughted out relating the said Circumstances in Mr Dupliex's Letter and acquainting him a Report still prevails of a Reinforcement coming from Aurungabad wherein there may be some Probability, desires to be acquainted what Forces he imagines the French may have at Outatoor & Walcondah who possibly if unable to effect any thing there may turn their Thoughts on Arcot and that he will give him his Opinion whether he shall be able to do any thing against Syringam shortly or be under a necessity to make use of heavy Cannon, time being precious; Which is approv'd by the Board.

THOS. SAUNDERS
RICHD. STARKE

AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

FORT S[T.] GEORGE, MAY 1752.

At a Consultation *Present*

Thomas Saunders Esq[r.] Gov[r.] Presid[t.]

Richard Starke William Kinneer

Alexander Wynch

John Smith

Fryday The 22[d].

M[r.] *Cooke sick.*

The Correspondence with the Military Officers abroad since last meeting is laid before the Board and read vi [z[t].]

The Letters from Major Lawrence mention that though the Nabob seems very desirous of an Engagement He [is] sure he is not half so much inclin'd to it as himself and the rest all ar[e], That Pitchundee Pagoda an Outpost of the Enemy's was taken and three Officers, seventy eight Frenchmen, forty seven Coffrees and Topasses and sixty Seapoys Prisoners with three Pieces of Cannon and two Cohorn Mortars which glorious Success must inevitably ruin the Enemy, & Measures will be immediately concerted for a General Attack if they don't surrender. That the Prisoners had be[en] conducted to the Fort where the Nabob had wrote him he design'd keeping them 'till there's an Opportunity of sending them to Europe in some of the Company's Ships when he'll pay their Passage, W[hich] he, the Major, thought the best way as it would rid the Country of the[m] and save us the Trouble that might attend their being kept Prisoner[s] in any of our Settlements. That several Letters had pass'd between M[r.] Law & himself who had desir'd on account of his ill Health to be reliev'd singly by M[r.] Dauteuil which being consented to and a Passport granted, M[r.] Dauteuil had refus'd to comply therewith because he was denied the Liberty of bringing some Horsemen with him; That he is of Opinion from the vast Crouds of Seapoys a[nd] Horse and some French that are continually coming over to us, Chu[nda] will soon be left by himself. That the Allies intend as soon as the Waters fall to form a Line quite round the Pagodas, by which means, if they can't batter them down, they will have an Opportunity of starving the Inhabitants who have very little Provisions left, He begs also that if we should have the good Fortune to succeed that he may have further Orders and desires the President will be assur'd of his doing every thing in the mean time that he thinks may be most conducive to the Good of the Service and mentions that the three French Officers had been permitted to go on Parole to Pondicherry not to serve against the Nabob or his Allies.

Those from Captain Sanderson at Poonamalee give an account that a few days past the Enemy took from us the only Field Piece we had belonging to Conjeveram within five Miles of Trivitore, & have of their own, five Pieces of Cannon, and learns from a Man belonging to the Bengal Detachment who was taken by the Enemy as he was going sick from Camp to Cuddalore Hospital & carried to Pondicherry from whence he had lately made his Escape under Pretence of entering into their Service, that M[r] Dupliex had promis'd him a large Reward if he would use his Endeavours to get Information of the Strength of Arcot and the Garrisons thereabouts and propos'd surprizing the former in a few days for which purposes some Scaling Ladders were ready and more preparing and M[r.] Dupleix had also given him his Signet & Pass.

Lieut[t.] Grenville writes that the Nabob's Forces have been successful in reducing Chittore where as it will be necessary to keep some Military he desires to be supplied with more from hence, especially as he suspects some Schemes are concerting between the Vellour Phousdar and the Enemy at Trivitore which a small additional Force may prevent them from putting in Execution. That he has ordered a Body of eighteen Military, seven Gunners & two Guns with a hundred Seapoys to continue at Trivitore to assist the Nabob's People in collecting the Contribution from the Polygars and has appointed a very good Man as Killedar there who has two hundred Horse besides Foot of his own, That a Party of four hundred Horse and two hundred & fifty Seapoys with French Arms were near Vellour & had sent to one of his People

——FORT S^T GEORGE, MAY 1752.——

to make them an Offer to enter into our Service but though he did not think it prudent to rely on them he would not absolutely reject their Offer and has sent them word he waits for an answer from the President about it whose Orders he desires to be favour'd with and gives it as his Opinion if they were entertain'd & station'd about Poonamalee or Conjeveram, they could not possibly do us any harm though they were inclin'd that Way.

As Major Lawrence requests he may be furnish'd with further Orders in case he should have the good Fortune to succeed, The President lays before the Board Draught of a Letter to him on that Subject, the material Part of which is as follows.

"My Opinion On the present Situation of Affairs is that Dispatch is of the "utmost Consequence as it cannot be long ere their Ships arrive.

"Mons̃. Dauteuil has it's said about one hundred and fifty Europeans & "Topasses, besides Horse and Seapoys, probably some others that have escap'd from "Syringham have join'd him 'tis thought he can be of no Service to Syringham and "reported Monsr Dupliex intends he shall go against Arcot; I believe this very "probable. You mention many Seapoys & Horse are come over to the Nabob, he "then certainly can spare them; I think it would be absolutely necessary that to "these you join a Force equal, if not superiour to that of Mons̃. Dauteuil to get "between him and Pondicherry & watch his motions which would prevent any "Accident; Arcot is but indifferently provided for, our Men scatter'd in small "Forts and we want an Officer.

"Should you be successful the first thing to be provided for is Money for the "Batta and Charges of the Troo[ps] we have not now sufficient for our Current "Expences; This you should plainly tell the Nabob and be secure of, it appears "to me for many Reasons the securing the Arcot Province would be the next Step "necessary after leaving a sufficient Garrison for the Security of Trichinopoly and the "Prisoners; Supposing the whole Army was to move by way of Wolcondah, securing "the several Forts in the way, and encamp at Gingee or nearer Pondicherry; This "might prevent the French from collecting any Country Force to join them and from "hence such Detachments might be sent to reduce Chetteput, Wondivash, Vellour "&c. Fo[rts] to the Nabob's Obedience. Consult with the Nabob, Please to "[ac]quaint me with his Plan and your Sentiments thereon.

A Letter from the President to Lieut^t Grenvil[le]at Arcot is also produc'd to the Board and contains the following D[i]rections.

To acquaint the Nabob's Deputy to tak[e] care of Chittore Fort, to recall immediately all his Military and Seapoys from thence and not send them continually out on Detachment but keep his Force collected at Arcot except Conjeveram may stand in need of Assistance or the Places on this Side of him and then it must be done only when he is in no Apprehensions himself of the Enemy and in short to make Arcot his particular Care, to keep his Hircars going to Chetteput and Wondivash and inform himself constantly of the Enemy's Motions who it's reported have a Design against Arcot.

All which the Board approve.

THO^S. SAUNDERS
RICH^D STARKE

A^R WYNCH

JOHN SMITH.

——FORT S^T. GEORGE, MAY 1752.——

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE WILLIAM KINNEER
HENRY POWNEY ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH
M^r. Cooke sick.

Saturday the 30th.

The Camp and Military Correspondence is now produc'd to the Board and the most material Occurrences therein as follow

Major Lawrence advises that since the taking of Outatour and Pitchunda; He thought it necessary to make a Lodgment upon the Island and accordingly form'd his Encampment which the Enemy with their whole Force attempted to disturb and thereby brought on one of these Country Engagements attended with a great deal of Firing and Fatigue, but through the Cowardice of the Enemy who retreated, little Harm was done on either Side; however he had sent an Officer and sixty Men to maintain a Post they had gain'd under the Pagoda Walls which on our People drawing off to Camp was attack'd by the whole French Force who never repuls'd with considerable Loss and an Officer & seven Men wounded on our Side tho' none mortally. That since, the Enemy have not appear'd and as there is Cover to march up to the Pagoda whenever we want to batter, he had recall'd his Party to Camp which is just out of Reach of Cannon Shot; That to avoid Expence and Loss of time he prevail'd on the Nabob to desire the King of Tanjour would assist him with four twenty four Pounders and Ammunition on promise of making good any that might burst but having been assur'd by Monagee there were none at Tanjour that would answer our Purpose, he had wrote to M^r. Cockell and M^r. [P]ybus desiring they would send instantly from Deve Cotah four Cannon of that size and 2000 Shot, which Monajee has undertaken to escort and find Cooleys for. That he had taken this Step as judging it absolutely necessary to save time if the Enemy should hold out which is not improbable. That with regard to Kelsey the Deserter he thinks it very curious M^r. Dupliex should protest against the English for hanging a Serjeant that deserted from us and robb'd us, but believes he is glad to catch at anything; That as to Mr Zilvaiguer, judging it improper he should continue in Camp, he was sent to M^r. Wilsons our Head Surgeon at Trichinopoly, & there treated much better than he merited as he was continually extolling their People and running down ours, and even said of M^r. Dupliex that he was acting a villainous Part which he would tell him of. That with respect to the Prisoners they have been all along guarded by Clemente Poveris and his Company who are the Nabobs Troops and if he himself has assisted him it's what one Ally owes to another, and he shall always take care to have the Law of Nations on his Side. That the Force at Wolcondah consists at most of but a hundred French, five hundred Seapoys and about as many Horse, who can do nothing there and it's therefore reasonable to suppose they may go to Arcot. That from the Report of all Deserters the Distress at Syringham must be terrible and at the utmost they have but two hundred & fifty Europeans, 30 Coffrees three hundred Seapoys and Shaik Hussan only fifty Horse left, and it's said intend makeing their Escape down the Calderoon the first dark Night which he hopes he shall be able to prevent. He further mentions that the three French Officers permitted to go to Pondicherry on their Parole have broke it and are at Wolcondah which having complain'd of to M^r. Law he has sent him an open Letter to M^r. Dupliex desiring he'll deliver them up to the Nabob whose Prisoners they are. That they are very busy making the necessary Preparations for a Siege against the Arrival of the Cannon, that the Enemy have quitted all their Advanc'd Posts and are retir'd into the Pagodas and he is told are in the utmost Distress, so that it's not improbable to think they 'll attempt making their Escape down the River or otherwise which he shall guard against as well as he can by placing Guards and Guns at the River Side, and constant Patroles all round.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1752.*——

Another Letter from Mr. Dupliex to the President as enter'd in the French Correspondence N° 4 is now produc'd and read containing several further Complaintr against Mr. Lawrence's Conduct and renewing all the Demands made in his formes Letters regarding that Gentleman. By the Advices from Major Lawrence as above related it appearing that the Crimes for which Kelsey was executed were both Robbery and Desertion. It seems Extremely unaccountable to the Board that Mr. Dupliex should pretend to concern himself in a Matter of this Nature or that he could be so weak as to imagine his being honour'd with His most Christian Majesty's Commission could any ways screen him from the Punishment he so richly deserv'd though taken in the Mogul's Dominions or in any neutral Country, it's therefore judg'd necessary that a Letter be wrote to Mr. Dupliex in Reply to the several lately receiv'd from him and that the Question be put to him whether a Subject of France that robs and deserts his Colours & is afterwards laid hold of at Arcot, is not according to their Laws Military, liable to suffer Death and that he be acquainted at the same time that Mr. Zilvaiguer's Treatment was such as he had no Reason to complain of, and a polite Treatment of Officers will always be promoted.

THOS. SAUNDERS
RICHD. STARKE
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE, HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 1st

The President lays before the Board, sundry Letters receiv'd since last Consultation vizt

From Lieutt Grenville at Arcot, advising what Intelligence he has receiv'd of the Enemy's Motions in those Parts, that a Body of them lay between that Place and Pondicherry and he is apprehensive should they attempt Chittore, it will be incapable of making any Resistance; That a Party of the Enemy to the Number of two hundred and fifty Foot and four hundred Horse well arm'd besides about two hundred and fifty Spare Arms had made Offers of coming over to us, that in a late Skirmish between a Party of the Nabob's Forces and the Enemy, the latter were defeated with the Loss of three Pieces of Cannon & some Ammunition.

From Captain Clive advising that he came up with the Enemy on the Banks of the Calderoon where he is now encamp'd and after cannonading them briskly oblig'd them to retreat with Precipitation, thereupon he attack'd Pitchunda Pagoda which after a Breach was made practicable surrender'd at Discretion; The Garrison consisted of one Captain, four Subalterns, a hundred Europeans, fifty Topasses two hundred Seapoys with three Pieces of Cannon and two Cohorn Mortars, that the next day, fifteen hundred Horse and some Seapoys being the Remainder of Chunda's Camp came over to us and all their Accounts agree that the whole of the Enemy's Force left at the two Pagodas does not exceed, three hundred French, five hundred Seapoys and one hundred Horse.

Draught of a Letter from the President to Mr. Dupliex being read as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 5 in answer to Letters No 1, 2, 3 & 4 receiv'd from him; the Board having duly consider'd it's Contents, approve thereof.

THOS. SAUNDERS
RICHD. STARKE
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH

——FORT St. GEORGE, JUNE 1752.——

At a Consultation *Present*

Thomas Saunders Esqr. Govr. President

Richard Starke Henry Powney

Alexander Wynch John Smith

Monday the 8th

The President lays before the Board the following Letters vizt.

One from Omir il Omrah Nizam il Mulck Gazedey Cawn Behader Phiroz Jung and another from Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn Assed Cawn expressing their great Satisfaction and Approbation of our Conduct in assisting Nabob Anaverdy Cawn and exhorting us to continue firm in our Alliance to the Illustrious House of Nizam by which we shall acquire great Rewards.

From Nabob Anaverdee Cawn inclosing the two former and acquainting us that his Affairs by our Assistance are brought into a Better Situation, that Major Lawrence and all the Officers have behav'd well, but the great Mogul had conferr'd the Government of the Decan Country on Nizam Ally Cawn Assed Jung and confirm'd him Anaverdy Cawn in the Government of the Carnateck Country.

Two Letters from Captain Clive, the first advising his having taken Wolcondah and in it Mons. Dauteuil, three other French Officers and fifty Europeans, three hundred Seapoys, three hundred Horse, four Pieces of Cannon, two Mortars and a large Quantity of Powder, Ammunition and Warlike Stores, that he propos'd to leave a Garrison there and march that Evening for Trichenopoly. The other giving us the agreeable News that Chunda Saib, the night before, was taken Prisoner.

Two Letters from Major Lawrence, the first dated before Syringham the 1st Instant, acquainting us of Captain Clive's Success againt Wolcondah and of Chunda Saib's being taken, that the Nabob had summon'd Mr. Law Commandant at Syringham to surrender who offer'd to leave his great Guns on Condition of being allow'd to march out with the Honours of War, but the Nabob insists on their being made Prisoners and has sent a Letter threatening to put every man to the Sword if the Pagoda be not deliver'd up by the next day at noon. That Mr. Dauteuil and the other Officers had obtain'd Leave to go to Pondicherry on their Parole not to serve against the Nabob for one year unless exchang'd or ransom'd; the other dated the 3d Instant advising the Surrender of Syringham on Condition that the Officers be permitted to go to Pondicherry on their Parole and the Soldiers to remain Prisoners of War but to be kept at Cuddalore 'till they can be sent to Europe.

From Mr. Dupliex No. 6 dated at Pondicherry 13th June NS. purporting that he had receiv'd Orders from Salabat Jung [to] restore Peace to this Province; as a Preliminary and Basis [to which] he is authoriz'd to leave Mahomed Ally Cawn in possession [of Trichi]nopoly, and that he has given Orders to the Comma[nders of his] Troops at Syringham & Wolcondah to cease all Hostilities as soon as this is accepted.

As there is great Reason to believe this Letter was not wrote 'till after the News of Chunda's being taken and the Surrender of Wolcondah and Syringham it evidently appears to be calculated only to amuse and gain time 'till the Arrival of the French Europe Ships and as we are no way certified of Mr. Dupliex's Power to treat on this Subject, it is Agreed to return no other answer than that we shall be glad to see a Peace concluded and shall use our best Endeavours for that Purpose, but that in the meantime our Operations be push'd with Vigour.

The President at the same time lays before the Board Copy of a Letter he had dispatch'd away to Major Lawrence immediately on receiving the News of the Surrender of Wolcondah, taking of Chunda, and Mr. Dupliex's Letter; to the following Effect. On no account whatever to be diverted from the Conquest of Syringham altho' Mr. Dupliex has propos'd a Cessation for the Preliminaries that the Morattas should not get Chunda in their Possession, that it is of the utmost Consequence to us & no Means should be left untry'd to get him into the Nabob's Power that the Parole of M. Dauteuil &c. French Officers not to serve against the Nabob for one year is not sufficient, it should be not to act during the War, desiring him to acquaint the

——*FORT St. GEORGE, JUNE 1752.*——

Nabob that 'tis expected he enter into no Treaty or Agreement whatever with Mr. Dupliex without the Knowledge & Concurrence of the English & that he communicate all Letters receiv'd from him & also that it is proper the Prisoners in general should remain at Trichinopoly, 'till further Advices from hence.

Which the Board approve.

THOS. SAUNDERS
JOHN SMITH RICHD. STARKE
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR: PRESIDENT

RICHARD STARKE WILLIAM KINNEER
HENRY POWNEY ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH

Mr. Cooke sick.

Monday the 15th.

The President lays before the Board the Letters he has receiv'd since the last Consultation which are to the following Purport.

From Major Lawrence advising that the Allies not agreeing who should have Chunda, to prevent Disputes his Head was cut off and carried into Trichinopoly; that Shaik Hussan is a Prisoner in Syringham to whom he had promis'd Protection and that he should be sent to some of our Settlements; that it being absolutely necessary to get rid of the Prisoners, they set out the 7th Instant under an Escort of one hundred and fifty Europeans, to the Number of fifty two Officers and Voluntiers and about five hundred Men, the former with Leave to go to Pondicherry and the latter to remain at Cuddalore, that Mr. Dupliex has wrote the Nabob he is ready to receive Proposals for a Peace but the latter is resolv'd to do nothing without our Concurrence and proposes to march speedily if possible to encamp between Gingee and Pondicherry as he can treat there to great Advantage.

From Captain Saunderson at Arcot, advising that the Enemy had attack'd Conjeveram for two days, whereupon he detach'd a Party to it's Relief, on whose Approach the Enemy abandon'd their Enterprize and retreated towards Changleput, that the Morattas plunder and ravage the Country round so that it is with great Difficulty he can procure Provisions for his Garrison.

From Mr. Dupliex (No 7) dated 18th Instant inclosing Declarations of some of their Officers relating to Major Lawrence as enter'd in the French Correspondence.

The President also acquaints the Board that he had sent Copies of the said Depositions to Major Lawrence for his answer and at the same time wrote him he is sorry the Prisoners have been sent to St. David and that he has protected Shaik Hussan who had better have been left to the Nabob, that after providing for the Safety of Trichinopoly and the King of Tanjour; the best thing the Nabob can do is if possible, to reduce Chingee, Chetteput, Changleput, & Vellour to his Obedience, and at all Events to get between Chingee and Pondicherry as it will give him great Advantages in treating or disconcerting the Enemy's Schemes in case of Deceit.

And Copy of a Letter from the President to M. Dupliex (No 8) dated 12th is now laid before the Board for their Perusal.

The President acquaints the Board that by a Letter from the Honble Court of Directors to the Private Committee they are order'd to endeavour making a Settlement on the Negrais, that in obedience thereto they had appointed Mr. Thomas Taylor who is esteem'd a proper Person to conduct this Expedition to proceed thither on the

——FORT St. GEORGE, JUNE 1752.——

Porto Bello Sloop and as this Vessel is intended to go to Pegu to be repair'd, he had engag'd another of a small Drau[ght] of Water to accompany her to and remain at Negrais if necessary, or otherwise to be employed as Occasion might require and had given Directions for embarking a Serjeant, a Corporal, six private Men, thirteen Coffrees, some Lascars and all things necessary for establishing a Settlement.

All which Letters and Transactions the Board approve, as they do also of a Letter to the said Mr Thomas Taylor serving as Instructions to him in the Expedition he is going on, and another to Mr Robert Westgarth now at Pegu appointing him the Company's Resident there which are order'd to be entered after the Minutes of this Consultation.

THOS. SAUNDERS
RICHD. STARKE
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

To MR. THOMAS TAYLOR

Sir

Having come to a Resolution to make a Settlement on the Island of Negraes; depending on your prudence, we have appointed you to put this Plan in Execution and have accordingly loaden on board Sloops Porto Bello & Fortune Sundries for that purpose as ℘ Invoice and Bill of Lading with what Military, Lascars &c were judg'd necessary and put these Sloops under your Direction you will therefore repair on board and give the respective Masters Orders to proceed to the Negraes and if possible to keep Company during their Passage, on your Arrival there you will survey and take an exact Plan of the Island, observe what Harbours with their Depth of Water, how it is situated in regard to Pegu River, whether any constant Inhabitants, or if People at any time resort there the Nature of the Soil, of what productive; the Quality of the Water, and the proper Place for a Fortification; Send us your Plan as soon as possible.

If you should have any Commerce with either Peguers or Burmars, that may resort there, treat them with the greatest Humanity and Courtesy and be careful your People do not in any Respect injure them but endeavour to cultivate a good Understanding with them.

If absolutely necessary you may detain both the Porto Bello and Fortune to attend you, but if no occasion for the Porto Bello dispatch her consign'd to Mr Robert Westgarth Resident at Pegu with the Packet now deliver'd you, he has orders to give you all the Assistance in his Power, and as many Opportunities will offer from Pegu to the Coast make use of all Conveyances to forward your Advices for us to him with the Duplicates that we may be acquainted with your Situation and be able to give you the proper Assistance.

As this will give you an Opportunity of recommending yourself to our Honble Masters we are convinc'd you will exert yourself. Wishing you Success we are

Fort St George
18th June 1752.

Sir
Your most Humble Servants.

THOMAS SAUNDERS
RICHARD STARKE
WILLIAM KINNEER
HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JUNE 1752.*——

To Mr. Robert Westgarth

Resident at Pegu

Sir

You having been represented to us as a sober diligent Person We have thought fit to appoint you Resident for the Honble Company's Affairs at Pegu.

Inclos'd is a Letter to the King with a Present for him and the Prince, on presenting it you will demand a Re-establishment of our former Rights and Priviledges and a convenient Place for a Factory with Leave to hoist our Colours, should the old one be ill situated pitch upon another and in this consider the Goodness of the Water and the Advantages of loading and reloading your Merchandize, and Building, and rebuilding and repairing Ships of any Burthen.

We have appointed Mr. Thomas Taylor to settle the Negraes, give him all the Assistance you can and should the King seem displeas'd at it, inform him it is not meant to molest him but to prevent others from taking it who are endeavouring to ruin both him and us.

In our Name make an Offer of entering into an Alliance with him and assure him we are ready to assist him with Men and every thing he may have Occasion for, at the same time hint to him to take care of some others who are endeavouring to settle themselves, which in the End may prove the Loss to him of his Liberty and Country and when on this Subject you will have a fair Opportunity to inform him of our Successes here.

This Sloop Porto Bello transporting the necessary for our Settlement at the Negrais, if Mr Taylor has immediate Occasion he may detain her in that Service; if he should consign her to you, inclos'd is Invoice of Sundries for her Repair which must be done with the utmost Expedition; on her load the particulars as ℘ Indent.

What Advices Mr Taylor may send you, for us forward by the first Conveyances, write us constantly of the Occurrences with you, especially what regards the French.

When we hear from you what may be necessary for the Establishment of a Factory, We shall comply with it.

Fort St. George

18th June 1752

We are

Sir

Your most Humble Servants

Thomas Saunders

Richard Starke

William Kinneer

Henry Powney

Alexander Wynch

John Smith.

At a Consultation *Present*

Thomas Saunders Esqr. Govr: President.

Richard Starke William Kinneer

Henry Powney Alexander Wynch

John Smith

Monday The 29th.

The President lays before the Board for their Information the Letter he has receiv'd since those he last communicated to them, the most material Occurrences in which are as follows.

——*FORT St. GEORGE, JUNE 1752.*——

From Captain Sanderson at Arcot advising the great Difficulty he labours under for want of Money to provide for the Military, the Seapoys too are ready to mutiny on account of their Arrears for May and June, and no Rents are to be collected without Force, that the Morattas decamp'd from thence the 18th. and in their Rout towards Velour have plunder'd all the Country thereabouts, this party are said to have left the Nabob upon some Disgust and are now in French Pay.

Several from Major Lawrence; the first refers to Capt Clive (by whom he writes) for the Reasons that detain'd him so long at Trichenopoly after the Surrender of Syringham.

And the President acquaints the Board that Captain Clive had accordingly inform'd him that a Dispute had arisen between the Nabob and Mysore King. The former, it seems, to engage the latter in his Interest, enter'd into an Agreement to deliver up Trichenopoly and its Dependencies to him as an Indemnity for his Charges and Recompence for his Assistance with which Agreement the Mysorean now demands a punctual Compliance and on the Nabob's evading it, refuses to march with his Forces.

The other Letters from Major Lawrence under different Dates, mention, first his having left Captain Dalton in the Command at Trichenopoly and his Arrival at Wolcondah where he had been in daily Expectation of the Nabob's joining him, but to no purpose, and to prevent any further Delays which are of such Prejudice to the Service he propos'd to escort him himself at the Head of a strong Party and in another Letter of a later Date he advises that the Nabob had at length resolv'd to march although the Mysoreans and Morattas obstinately persist in their Demand, He also complains of a great Want of Officers in the Army.

From Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly mentioning the Steps he had taken for the Security of the Place, and that the Mysore and Moratta Army remain encamp'd under the Walls, that all his Endeavours to persuade them to join our Forces have prov'd ineffectual, nothing less than their whole Demand will satisfy them, they have however promis'd if the Nabob will sign with his great Chop to give them what before promis'd, they will immediately send four thousand Horse to join our Army, this the Necessity of the Nabob's Affairs have oblig'd him to comply with but at the same time he declar'd to his Friends that he has neither Design nor Right to give away this Fort and Country which belongs to the Great Mogul and is under the Protection of the English, by this Agreement the King of Mysore is to be at Liberty when he goes away to send seven hundred Peons into the Fort which he (Captain Dalton) had consented to but absolutely refus'd signing to any other Part of the Contract.

From Mr. Dupliex (as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 9) dated 7th July N S. to the President only although in a former Letter to Mr. Dupliex he is desir'd to address the President and Council and it's now Agreed that an answer be return'd from the Board.

The Contents of the foregoing Letters and the present critical Situation of Affairs being well weigh'd and consider'd, the President lays before the Board Draught of a Letter intended to be sent to Major Lawrence to the following Effect, that the present Dispute between the King of Mysore and the Nabob is an Affair of the utmost Consequence and in which we ought not to precipitate ourselves as the Effects may be dangerous for should we who receive a Jageer for our Alliance with the Circar be any ways instrumental to the Separating so large a District from the Subahship, we might draw upon ourselves the Resentment of the Moors in general, at the same time as the Mysore King supplies the Nabob with Men and Money should he withdraw his Assistance it would greatly embarrass our Affairs; that He (the President) has wrote to the Mysore Dalaway to send his Vakeel hither, assuring him of our Friendship and that no Endeavours shall be wanting to settle every thing to the Satisfaction of both Parties, that in the mean time no means should be left untry'd to keep them quiet; As it is evident these People may easily be brought over to our Enemies, it is necessary, the Mortars, Guns Powder &ca. Stores should be sent to Deve Cotah or St. David. Which the Board approve.

——*FORT St. GEORGE, JULY 1752.*——

Major Kinneer representing that he thinks some Severity should be us'd with the Swiss who desert very fast, no less than twelve having made their Escape two Nights ago, and that the properest Method will be to appoint a General Court Martial to try and inflict Punishments on such as shall be found guilty, the Board are of Opinion this Measure is highly necessary; Agreed therefore that a Warrant be made out to Major Kinneer to hold the said Court, and one to Mr. Pero as Judge Advocate.

THOS. SAUNDERS
RICHD. STARKE

HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH

JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.	GOVR. PRESIDENT
RICHARD STARKE	WILLIAM KINNEER
CHARLES BODDAM	HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH	JOHN SMITH

Wednesday the 8th.

The President now communicates to the Board the Advices he has receiv'd from the Army since last Consultation which are to the following Effect.

From Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly that Syringham is by Agreement deliver'd to the Mysore King who is outwardly reconcil'd with the Nabob, and he believes four thousand Horse will march to join our People but he is doubtful of their Zeal in the Cause, as nothing will satisfy the King but Trichinopoly, his Forces still remain encamp'd under the Walls and seven hundred of his Peons are to be admitted into the Fort. Moraree the Moratta General he is not convinc'd is in our Interest as he has a Vakeel at Pondicherry and frequently receives Letters from thence, One of his principal Jemidars being greatly disgusted at the part his General is acting has privately offer'd to declare on our Side with his Command consisting of six hundred of the best Morattas the moment the other joins or marches towards the French on condition of being protected when the Nabob is settled, he likewise will engage if the Nabob will advance him Money to bring to his Assistance two thousand more Morattas of his Friends and Relations. Salabat Jung has wrote the Dallaway ordering him to withdraw his Forces and He says he will go in nine days but thinks the Letter was wrote by the Nabob.

From Major Lawrence advising that the Nabob with his Forces had join'd him and Affairs took a different Turn on his declaring he intended to march for the King of Mysore and Moraree the Moratta General propose to return to their own Country and on the Nabobs consenting to put his great Chop to a Paper he had before sign'd, a Body of their People are to join us, with whom, the Nabob's Forces and our own he propos'd to march to Wolcondah; Another Letter advises his Arrival there but the Mysoreans and Morattas were not yet come, and that he had wrote to the King of Tanjour and Monajee for two thousand Horse. Subsequent Advices mention his marching from thence and Arrival at Tettagoody in his way to Verdachilum and intimate that he is well assur'd Moraree holds a Correspondence with Pondicherry. In some of these Letters Major Lawrence expresses a Desire of being reliev'd on account of an Indisposition which has hung on him for some time and is now so much increas'd that unless he should find Benefit from a Change of Air he doubts his being able to hold out to the End of the March.

The President's Letters to Major Lawrence are also read and purport that the Nabob would do right to consider well how far he can confide in the Morattoes and Mysore People, on whom no great Dependence can be plac'd as they seem disgusted, therefore he had better write to Mr. Dupliex that he is ready to treat about settling

the Province, this will alarm them, for how then can the Mysore King think of being reimburs'd; In the mean time for fear of Treachery, 'tis proper the Nabob should be always attended with a strong Guard of our Military & Seapoys.

Which the Board approve.

Major Lawrence having in his Letters complain'd of an Indisposition which may prove dangerous if he should be oblig'd to keep the Field much longer, we think it highly necessary he should be reliev'd and it is therefore Agreed that Major Kinneer proceed and take upon him the Command of the Army in the Room of Mr. Lawrence.

Thos. Saunders
Richd. Starke

Chas. Boddam
Henry Powney
Ar Wynch
John Smith

At a Consultation *Present*

Thomas Saunders Esqr. Govr. President
Richard Starke — Henry Powney
Alexander Wynch — John Smith.

Monday the 13th.

The Private Letters to the President relating to the Transactions in the Field and Garrisons which have been receiv'd since those mention'd in last Consultation being now read are.

From Major Lawrence advising the March of the Army from Verdachilum to Woolindoor a Village which the Morattoes a few days before had plunder'd and ruin'd as they have also done every other Village in the Country and behave more like Enemies than Friends. From Woolindoor the Army proceeded to Trivedy which on the Nabob's Summons surrender'd at Discretion and the next Step to be taken Mr. Lawrence is of Opinion should be to go instantly to Pondicherry Bounds as the best Method for procuring a speedy and honourable Peace but that however the Army should wait for orders.

Captain Dalton at Trichenopoly writes that through the means of the Moratta Jemidar whom he mention'd in his last he has certain Intelligence that Moraree's Designs are only to protract the War and to that End instills Suspicions into the Minds of the Nabob and Rajah promising Friendship to both, by which means he draws large Sums from the one and the other, he has also offer'd his Service to the French if they will advance him three Lack of Rupees but is a little startled at the Report of the Treaty being on foot with Mr. Dupliex and has thereupon taken the Resolution to get what he can from the King and to send a Party to Wootatoor not to join the Nabob but to drain him of as much as possible and then march off to his own Country; This Intelligence is confirm'd to him by the Mysore King who in a late Conference declar'd that he was at length convinc'd the Nabob and Moraree were both endeavouring to ruin him, the latter having lately brought in a most exorbitant Charge, plainly told him if he did not instantly pay the Money he would go and join Chunda's Son and had oblig'd him to sign a Letter to Mr. Dupliex promising to abide by any Agreement Moraree should make with him; he has however on the Receipt of a Letter from the President which has greatly rais'd his Spirits, promis'd the four thousand Horse shall march as soon as the River is passable.

Captain Sanderson at Arcot advises that the Seapoys in that Garrison have mutiny'd for want of their Arrears which to pacify them he had been oblig'd to promise should be paid in four days, and finds himself under a Necessity either of raising a sufficient Sum by Draught on the Company or turning the Seapoys out of the Garrison, for he can't get any money from Lala, the Nabob's Deputy.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1752.*——

The several Letters from the President being produc'd and read are to the following Effect,

To Major Lawrence acquainting him that Major Kinneer is appointed & set out to relieve him, that 'tis Adviseable the Army should march between Gingee and Pondicherry, that although it seems hazardous to place any Dependence on the Mysore & Moratta Troops, yet 'tis misterious what advantages they can propose by joining the Enemy; The Nabob is largely indebted to the King the payment of which depends on his Success. However the Nabob must keep fair with them; as he can never be firmly settled without a Peace it would be proper he should offer an Accommodation with Mr. Dupliex but with great Caution for he is not to be depended on, and his whole Aim at present seems to be to get the Prisoners releas'd, that it would not be amiss to throw a few men into Bowoor, but great Care should be taken that no Hostilities be committed in the French Bounds.

To Captain Dalton that he would do well to improve the Friendship between him and the Moratta Jemidar but to be extremely cautious he is not deceiv'd under specious Pretences, that the Disagreement between the Mysore King & Moraree looks suspicious, and Treachery often lurks under the fairest Appearances, therefore he must not admit any of their Troops into the Fort except those already receiv'd by Agreement and be watchful even of them.

All which the Board approve as they do also of a Letter now read to Major Kinneer, directing him to reduce Gingee if possible, as it will be of infinite Service to the Nabob's Affairs.

THOS. SAUNDERS
AR WYNCH RICHD. STARKE
JOHN SMITH. HENRY POWNEY

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE RICHARD STARKE
HENRY POWNEY, ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 20th

The most material Occurrences in the Advices now communicated to the Board are

From Major Kinneer at Fort St. David and Captain Gingins at Trivedy, advising the Indisposition of the former but that he hopes soon to be able to take the Field and will then lose no Time in concerting with the Nabob proper Measures for carrying into Execution the Plan on Gingee, that the Seapoys are very mutinous for want of their Pay and no Money can be got from the Nabob who alledges that whilst the Morattas continue in the Country there is no possibility of collecting any of the Revenues.

Captain Dalton writes that he had discover'd a Plot of the King of Mysore to get Possession of Trichinopoly by arming the French Prisoners and murdering him, then to seize one of the Gates and let in a Body of four thousand Horse; the Person pitch'd upon to conduct this villainous Enterprize (for which he was to receive a Reward of twenty thousand Rupees besides three thousand two hundred Rupees to purchase Arms for the French Prisoners) having been honest enough to confess it, and produc'd the King's Chop counter sign'd by his Secretary; That the Scheme was not quite ripe for Execution, but as soon as he could by means of the Informant discover the Names of the Jemidars concern'd, he propos'd to disarm the Seapoys, seize the Ring leaders, turn the Mysore Peons out of the Fort and secure Gopaul

—*FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, JULY 1752.*—

Rauze the King's Brother who commands there, 'till further Orders, he also expresses great Distress for want of Money to pay the Seapoys who are in a miserable Condition for want of it & he cannot get any from the Nabob.

The President's Letters are also read to the following Effect,

To Major Kinneer, that the Nabob writes two thousand Morattas are within four Coass of Trivedy and are desirous of settling with the English the Proportion they are to receive of Plunder in future, which is very proper to be done to prevent Disputes hereafter; Large Remittances will be made from hence to $S^{t.}$ David for the Camp. Delays have prov'd very prejudicial therefore no Time should be lost; it is proper the Army should march and encamp at Villenour and attempt the Reduction of Gingee the Success of which there is the less Reason to fear as there appears nothing extraordinary to obstruct it, the French having receiv'd only one hundred & fifty Men by the Centaur, and some have been sent to Metchlepatam.

To Captain Dalton that there is Room to believe the Variance between the Mysore King and Moraree is only in Appearance and not real, therefore warning him to be on his Guard, and if they should attack the King of Tanjour to give him all the Assistance possible.

Which the Board approve.

THO$^{S.}$ SAUNDERS.
RICH$^{D.}$ STARKE
HENRY POWNEY
A^{R} WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ$^{R.}$ GOV$^{R.}$, PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH

Monday the 27th.

The Letters receiv'd since last Consultation relating to the Military Operations are now read; Those from Major Kinneer mention a Discontent in the Troops for want of Pay & the absolute necessity they should be satisfy'd, that the Nabob has desir'd a Detachment of two hundred Europeans, five hundred Seapoys and two Field Pieces may be sent with one of his Officers to reduce the Polygar of Worriar to Obedience who is indebted to him in a large Sum which he refuses to pay and observes that though the raising of Money at this Time be extremely necessary yet detaching so large a Party from the Army will absolutely prevent the Success of the Plan on Gingee. The Major's other Advices contain a Narrative of the Preparations for the intended Expedition and his Arrival at Trivedy to take on him the Command of the Army, he also advises that the Nabob has inform'd him a Treaty is on foot between Mr Dupliex and Moraree, and that the latter has offer'd his Services to the former for two Lacks of Rupees, one of which he understands is already paid, that these Terms had been propos'd to him (the Nabob) but finding himself incapable of accepting, he had been oblig'd to reject them, and if his Intelligence be true, The Mysore and Morattas may be expected this way.

Captain De Gingins advises that the Morattas continue to ravage and plunder about Wolcondah and act wherever they come like Declared Enemies.

Captain Dalton writes that he had been prevented in his Intention of suffering the Mysore Plot to be brought to Maturity and then detecting and punishing them in the Fact, by the Fears of the Nabob's Brother Kiroudy Cawn who sent for the Mysore Vakeel and told him he was acquainted with the whole Affair and would complain to Moraree who does not appear to have been at all Privy to the Villainy; This put a Stop to it and the King can find no better Excuse than disowning his Intentions and laying the Plot on one of his Jemidars, though his own Chop proves

—FORT S^T. GEORGE, JULY 1752.—

the contrary; he has had another Scheme in view which was to bribe him (Captain Dalton) by the means of his Dubash to deliver up the Fort for two Lack of Rupees and offer'd the Dubash a present of twelve thousand Rupees, if he could accomplish it; He has even gone so far since the Discovery of the Plot as to enquire of the Person who was to have conducted it whether he had bought the Arms for the French Prisoners and could bring the Thing to bear as yet. That the Mysores and Morattas still continue encamp'd under the Walls and complain that twenty two Guns are mounted over their Camp, though they are asham'd of the late Affair and promise to send four thousand Horse to join the Nabob, but it is very doubtful whether they have actually any Intentions of performing it, and if they should, no Dependence can be plac'd on them; under these Circumstances there is great Cause for Uneasiness on account of the Seapoys who are absolutely starving and Kiroudy Cawn declares he can't pay them; Should they desert the Consequences may be dangerous and they have ingenuously declar'd a few days more Distress will oblige them to seek Service elsewhere. The great Point in dispute at present is that the Mysore and Morattas want to be put in possession of Jumkistna Pagoda and other Advanc'd Posts, which as they command every Avenue to the Fort would put it in their Power to stop and hinder all Manner of Provisions from coming in which they have already done whenever they have had an Opportunity.

The letters wrote by the President to Major Kinneer are also read and purport that the sending a Detachment against the Worriar Polygar is impossible as it would be a Work of Time as well as Difficulty but the collecting those Revenues will be render'd easy if the first Scheme be attended with Success, that as Mr Dupliex seems dissatisfied with the Prisoners being at St David it would not be amiss if the Nabob was to have the Charge of those that may be taken hereafter, that if the Mysore and Moratta Troops should join the Army, a watchful Eye must be kept on them for they are not to be trusted.

A Letter from M^r. Dupliex (as enter'd in the French Correspondence N° 11) is also laid before the Board containing sundry Depositions of the French Officers relating to Transactions at Syringham, Trivedy &c. Ordered that Copies be deliver'd to the Persons whom they concern and that they give in their Answers thereto, and as M^r. Dupliex in his own Name without his Council continues to address the President contrary to our repeated Desire that the Correspondence might be carried on between the Governours and Councils of the two Settlements, 'tis Agreed that we address them now and desire to know whether they have delegated all their Power to M^r. Dupliex to manage and transact the Affairs of their Settlement.

As it is very evident from the whole Tenour of M^r. Dupliex's Letters and Conduct that he is not in the least inclin'd to Peace unless on such Terms as may be extremely prejudicial to the Company's Interest; It is now debated what Measures are proper to be pursued at this Critical Juncture; On the one hand the Mysore King and Morattas disgusted at the Nabob's refusing to deliver up Trichinopoly according to Agreement, are acting a Part that leaves room to fear they may be induc'd to desert our Cause and enter into an Alliance with the Enemy which as they are a powerful People may involve the Province in a more terrible and destructive War than it has yet groan'd under and create us fresh Difficulties, and the only Alternative is to comply with the Mysore King's Demand which in it's Consequences may be equally dangerous for as Allies to the Circar we cannot without drawing on ourselves the Resentment of the whole Country be instrumental in alienating so valuable a Part of it's Territorys, upon the whole we are of Opinion that as the future Success of the Company's Affairs on this Coast undoubtedly depends on checking Mr Dupliex in his Ambitious Views, the most adviseable Steps to be now taken are to support the Nabob Anaverdy Cawn in his Rights and Pretensions to the Government of the Carnateck Country and give him all the Assistance we can agreeable to our Treaty and at the same time use all prudent means to keep fair with the Mysore King and Morattas.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, AUGUST 1752.*——

Major Lawrence having been consulted since his Return from Camp in relation to the Priviledges claim'd by the Captains of the Swiss Companies informs us that he believes it was the Intention of the Honble Court of Directors they should be allow'd to exercise and enjoy them. Upon this Consideration as well as that we think it prudent at this Juncture when so much depends on the Bravery of the Troops and Conduct of the Officers, to avoid giving them any Cause of Uneasiness, which probably might be the Case should We, contrary to their Custom inflict those Punishments which are now become absolutely necessary to prevent Desertion and keep up a good Discipline. It is Agreed that untill the Pleasure of the Honble Court of Directors can be known, the Captains, Officers &c^a. of the Swiss Companies be permitted to use, exercise and enjoy the Priviledges by them claim'd as set forth in a Paper now read and is as follows.

Priviledges claim'd by the Swiss Captains.

1st To chastize and inflict from their own private Authority what Corporal Punishment each Captain shall judge necessary, as well in regard to the Soldiers as the Serjeants and Corporals of his Company; To keep them in prison as long as he will without being oblig'd to explain his Reasons for it to any one; observing only that if it is propos'd to whip any Criminals before the Parade assembled, the Captain shall make his Report of it to the Superiour under whose Orders he finds Himself and ask on this Occasion the Consent of such Superiour.

2dly That each Captain be authoriz'd (in consequence of his Commission) to establish that Discipline which he shall judge agreeable to the Good of the Service and even to practice the little Punctilios, in regard to his Subaltern Officers, which are necessary, for those who neglect their Duty; Which Punctilios are generally Arrests for what time the Chief of the Corps thinks proper without being call'd to give a Reason for it to any one. That if the Case be of such Weight as to merit Prison, after haveing sent the Delinquent there, the Captain will make a Report of it to the Major or any other Commanding Officer in his Absence.

THO^s. SAUNDERS
HENRY POWNEY
A^R WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

Monday the 3d August.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R: PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH

The Camp and Military Correspondence is now laid before the Board and read the most material Parts of which follow

The Letters from Major Kinneer relate to his March with the Army from Trivedy and Arrival before Gingee having in the way taken a small Fort call'd Villaparum under French Colours. That after He and the Principal Officers had thoroughly reconnoitred Gingee which he describes as a Place of great Strength, it was their unanimous Opinion that the Reduction of it was impracticable without a much larger Force and a long Siege, and having at the same time receiv'd certain Intelligence that the French Forces were on their March from Pondicherry with an Intent to hem him in between the Mountains and cut off his Retreat, he judg'd it absolutely necessary, as there could be no Prospect of Success against Gingee, to quit that Enterprize, and secure the Pass through which he must return, the Army accordingly march'd for that Purpose and receiving Intelligence of the Enemy's Approach, it was thought adviseable to engage them which he did at a Place call'd Vickeravandy and after a brisk Fire on both Sides, his Seapoys began to give way, he endeavour'd to

——*FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, AUGUST 1752.*——

rally them but in vain, and in directing the Removal of some Guns to sustain the Europeans, he was shot through the Leg with a Musket Ball, whereupon finding not one of the Nabob's People would come down to his Assistance though he had promis'd to sustain him with two thousand Horse, he gave orders for a Retreat which was perform'd in very good Order to Villaparum and from thence to Trivedy, that the Loss upon the whole is very inconsiderable and less than the Enemy's though they were superiour in Number.

Captain Dalton from Trichenopoly writes that the Difference between the King of Mysore and Moraree (which was real) is accommodated in Consideration of a Lack of Rupees and a thousand Rupees a day additional Allowance to be paid by the former to the other; there is great Reason to think a Treaty is on foot between them and Mr. Dupliex whose Vakeel lately arriv'd in their Camp and was well receiv'd, and little Hopes of the promis'd Succours marching to join us. They have demanded Outatoor to be deliver'd them; and declare, if not comply'd with they will take it by Force, and he is inform'd they have resolv'd if they do not one way or other get Possession of Trichinopoly in a Month, to declare openly against the Nabob, which Intelligence he had intimated to the King of Tanjour's Vakeel, who declar'd that in such Case his Master would immediately join and assist us with Men and Money; That the Mysore Camp remains still under the Walls and in case of an open Rupture entirely within the Power of the Fort Guns. He has also Intelligence that a Portugueze in the Service of Moraree has receiv'd a parchment from Mr. Dupliex said to be sign'd by the King of Portugal and the Bishop of St. Thomé, impowering him to take Charge of that Place and defend it 'till reinforc'd from Goa by two thousand Portugueze.

The Advices from Arcot mention that no Alteration has happen'd in the Situation of Affairs there.

The President acquaints the Board that before the Action at Vickeravandy, having receiv'd Intelligence of the French Forces marching from Pondicherry, and also Major Kinneer's Letter describing the Strength of Gingee, he had sent Orders to him to desist from the Enterprize if he thought it impracticable and to engage the Enemy.

And although this Undertaking has not been attended with all the Success that could be wish'd yet the Board are of Opinion that the Measures that have been pursued were very proper and approve of the several Directions that have been given relating thereto.

Agreed that Captain Schaub with a Detachment of his Company be sent to Fort St David to reinforce that Garrison or be employed in the Field as Occasion may require.

The President acquaints the Board that in a Conference yesterday with the Mysore Vakeel on the Subject of the Difference between his Master and the Nabob, the Vakeel had strongly urg'd his Masters Pretensions to Trichinopoly in consequence of the Nabob's Promise to deliver it up as a Recompence for his Assistance but which he now refuses to perform, whereto the President replied that as the King had not yet fulfill'd his part of the Agreement by placing the Nabob in the peaceable Possession of Arcot and the province he could not think him entitled to the Performance of the Nabobs which to him appear'd a very extraordinary one as the Districts under his Management are not his own, but belong to the Circar and therefore he had no power to give away Revenues to so great an amount, and at the same time to prevent his being disgusted assur'd him it was a Matter of Indifference to Us who had it, but as we were in Alliance with the Circar, our intermeddling therein might draw on us the Resentment of the Mogul and Gazedy Cawn and thereby involve ourselves in Difficulties, his Answer to which was that it's being made over to his Master would not in the least divest the Circar of the Revenues as he must pay the same Tribute to the Prince of the Decan Country, as the Nabob now does; to this the President told him we should not concern ourselves in this Affair, but that

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, AUGUST 1752.*——

as we have a great Regard for the King of Mysore, if the Nabob is inclin'd to deliver up Trichinopoly to him, we shall rather perswade him to it than object, with which he seem'd satisfied. And the Subject of the foregoing Conference being weigh'd and considered, as it will doubtless bring on the Resentment of the Circar should we be concern'd in alienating Trichinopoly ; it is determin'd to be no further concern'd in this Affair than as it a place of Consequence to the Nabob in his present Situation, we think it ought not to be deliver'd up as yet but that to prevent the Mysore King's being disgusted it be hinted to him that when the Nabob is once settled in the Province, if he can be prevail'd on, and the Circar's Permission obtain'd, we shall have no Objection.

The President also acquaints the Board that Balaza Row, the Sourajah's Chief General had sent a Vakeel hither to cultivate a Friendship and Alliance with us, and in several Conferences had express'd his Master's Approbation of our Conduct with Respect to Nabob Anaverdy Cawn and that he propos'd after the Monsoon to march this way.

THO^S. SAUNDERS

HENRY POWNEY
A^R WYNCH
JOHN SMITH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

Monday the 10th.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R : PRESID^T.
STRINGER LAWRENCE, CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY, ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH

The Letters relating to Military Operations now read are.

From Major Kinneer at St David and Captain Clark at Trivedy advising that the Enemy were collecting together at Vickeravandy all the Force they could from Gingee Chetteput, Wondivash &c. and that a Party of them had attack'd and retaken Villeparum Fort.

From Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly, that the Mysore King & Morattas have mov'd their Camp from under the Fort Wall to a rising ground by Worriore, which place they have demanded. Some of their Troops have pass'd the Calderoon and it is said with an Intent to join the Nabob ; if so 'tis to be fear'd they have some Treachery in view for they are certainly in treaty with Mr Dupliex.

From the President to M^r. Dupliex dated 6th Instant N°. 12 and one from M^r. Dupliex to the President, dated 14th August N. S. N° 13, both enter'd in the French Correspondence.

From Salabat Jung approving the Protection and Assistance we have given to Anaverdy Cawn.

From Anaverdy Cawn desiring our Interposition, in relation to the Dispute with the King of Mysore, also acquainting us that Gazedey Cawn is marching this way and that it would be of great Advantage if he were to be joind by some English Troops which may be easily done from Bombay also enclosing the following Papers vizt.

Copy of a Letter to him from Salabat Jung and a Saned for the Government of the Carnateck Country

Copy of a Letter from Balaza row the Head Moratta General assuring him of his Friendship, that Gazedey Cawn is appointed by the Mogul to the Government of the Decan Country and is marching this way.

Copy of a Letter from Salabat Jung to the King of Tanjour in Approbation of his Alliance with Anaverdy Cawn.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, AUGUST 1752.*——

From the Mysore King and Moraree the Moratta General on the Subject of the Kings Pretensions to Trichenopoly, and although the Board came to a Resolution at the last Consultation in relation thereto ; yet as it is an Affair of the utmost Consequence the Consideration of it is now resum'd on the Question whether we can consitently [*Sic*] with Prudence concern ourselves at all in this Difference and how far, and as from the whole Tenour of the Mysore and Moratta Behaviour it is evident they are determin'd to have Trichinopoly or declare openly against the Nabob, it is not to be imagin'd should we interfere that any thing less will satisfy them than a Promise that we will interest ourselves in obtaining for them of the Circar what they demand ; Should we go thus far and strictly perform our Engagement we run the Risque of distressing the Company's Affairs and embroiling ourselves with the Government and on the other hand to promise and not perform, or do it evasively is a Conduct, at the same time very dishonourable, unworthy of Englishmen and will depreciate us in the Opinion of the Country People in general and destroy the Confidence they now have in our good Faith, It is therefore thought most advisable not to give them any hopes of our Assistance in obtaining [the]ir Demand and in case they should join the Enemy and declare against the Nabob, that we assist him to the utmost of our power agreeable to our Treaty with the Circar, though we are well convinc'd that it would be much more for the Interest of the Province as well as the Company could a Peace be brought about even on terms not so much to our Advantage as we could wish ; and it being debated whether in Consequence of our Alliance with the Circar we can consistently with the Law of Nations protect and defend the Nabob Anaverdy Cawn in his own Dominions against the Attempts of all his Enemies of whatever Nation and assist in the retaking such Places as have by Force of Arms been wrested from him, on the Question put it is unanimously Agreed that if such a Conduct is not strictly conformable to the Law of Nations, it is yet perfectly agreeable to the Custom in Europe of which the late War produc'd many Examples and therefore Resolved that Major Lawrence as soon as he is able, proceed to take upon him the Command of the Army, and act in all things agreeable to our Treaty & that Instructions be drawn out to him accordingly.

THO^S. SAUNDERS

CHA^S : BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
A^R WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R. PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE, CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY, ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

Thursday the 13th

The President lays before the Board two Letters from M^r. Dupliex N° 14 & 15 the first dated the 20th August NS, he declares in answer to the President's of the 6th that he will not enter into any Negotiation with Mahomed Ally Cawn untill the French Prisoners are deliver'd up. The second dated the 21st Instant NS. advises that he has stopt the Chelingas in which were Captain Schaub and his Detachment going to St David, whom he shall detain as Hostages untill we deliver up the Prisoners at Madrass, Fort St David, Arcot and Trichinopoly. This Extraordinary Behaviour of M^r. Dupliex and the necessary Measures to be taken thereon being duly consider'd and the 38th & 39th Paragraphs of the General Letter by the Durrington read, wherein our Honble Masters are pleas'd to direct " that we do not give " the French any Reason to charge us with a Breach of the late Treaty by any

"acts of Hostility against them except in our own Defence, but protest against them "for all Acts of Violence and Infringements of the said Treaty of Peace between the "two Nations" in Obedience thereto it is Resolved to demand Restitution [of] the said Detachment and to protest against Mr Dupliex and the Council of Pondicherry for their Act of Piracy in seizing upon the open Seas the Subjects of his Britannick Majesty, passing upon their lawful Occasions, and that we also acquaint them the Prisoners they demand of us are not ours but the Nabob's to whom we have given our Word to deliver them on Demand which we are ready to comply with.

The President also lays before the Board a Letter from Captain Schaub relating the Circumstances of his being seiz'd with his Detachment in Pondicherry Road.

Agreed to write to him to protest against Mr. Dupliex for the said Act of Violence and in case the least Affront or ill Usage should be offer'd to him, his Officers or Men, or any means us'd to decoy them, not to fail renewing his Protest on every such Occasion.

As we are convinc'd from the late Behaviour of Mr. Dupliex that he has thrown off all Restraint and will not scruple to commit the most open acts of Violence, we think it hazardous for Major Lawrence and the Officers intended to accompany him to proceed to Fort St. David either by Land or in Boats, tis therefore resolv'd that the Bombay Castle be ordered thither for that Purpose & to be return'd immediately.

THOS. SAUNDERS
JOHN SMITH
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH, JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 17th.

The Letters from Camp and Garrisons, now laid before the Board and read are

From Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly adviseing that the King of Mysore in a late Conference with his Vakeel promis'd immediately to send three thousand Horse to join the Nabob and complain'd that Moraree contrary to his Inclinations was in Treaty with Mr Dupliex, but there is great Reason to suspect that he is himself carrying on a Negotiation there though he protests if Trichinopoly should not be deliver'd to him, he will take no other Step than waiting on us in Person to lay his Case before us and yet he still persists in demanding Possession of all the Outposts which command every Avenue to the Fort, and if that is comply'd with he says he will march himself to the Nabob's Assistance, on the other Hand Kiroudy Cawn is also in Treaty with Moraree and with some Appearance of Success, He insists on a Phirmaund for a Country near the Goat, a Share of the Plunder of Syringham, and the remaining half of the Lack, and makes great Protestations of Friendshi[p to] the English.

From Captain Clark at Trivedy, that he had receiv'd Advice of the Enemy's being encamp'd within five Miles of Waldour to the number of four hundred Europeans and two thousand Seapoys with eight Guns and that two hundred Europeans with two Guns were ready to join them from Ariacopang

Captain Sanderson at Arcot writes that the Nabob's Brother Abdul Vahab Cawn was arriv'd there but without any Forces except Lawla's and had desir'd that a Detachment of Europeans with Cannon and Ammunition might be order'd with him to

collect the Revenues which the Polygars and Killedars refus'd to pay; That Govinda Row, two hundred Horse and three hundred Foot with Europe Arms were arriv'd at Vellour from Chetteput and also a Party of French from Gingee.

The President's Letters are also read, the most material Parts of which are as follow.

To Major Lawrence, that if the Enemy should molest Fort St. David Bounds to protest against them, but whether they do or not, to endeavour to bring them to an Engagement, that as far as 10£ may be offer'd to those Europeans who have serv'd their Times, to relist, if they cannot be prevail'd on for less.

To Captain Dalton at Trichenopoly that by repeated Intelligence it is confirm'd the King of Mysore has been in Treaty with Mr. Dupliex, whose Offers are not satisfactory that it is necessary to be on continual Guard against Treachery in Trichinopoly and to keep a watchful Eye over Gopaul Rauze, Mr. Dupliex is endeavouring to cultivate a Friendship with Moraree, so will the Nabob, probably he will receive Money from them both.

To Captain Saunderson at Arcot, that altho' the Nabob's Brother Abdul Vahab Cawn is arriv'd there, He is not to have the Command of the Fort, however he must be treated with proper Civility, but no Detachments are to be made from the Garrison unless on such Occasions as will admit of being easily recall'd.

All which the Board approve.

The President acquaints the Board that the Nabob by his Vakeel had made Overtures of Peace to Mr Dupliex who refus'd to hearken to any Terms untill the French Prisoners are deliver'd up. As this is a further Proof that Mr Dupliex is not in the least inclin'd to accommodate Matters, we are of opinion that there remains no other part for us to take but to push on our Operations with Vigour and assist the Nabob as far as we are able as the most if not the only effectual Means of procuring an honourable Peace.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

A Letter from the President to Mr. Dupliex, and one from the President and Council to Mr. Dupliex &ca. Council of Pondicherry as enter'd in the French Correspondence No 17 & 18 Sign'd & sent. 22d

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR: PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH

Major Kinneer sick Monday The 24th.

The Military Correspondence read

The Letters from Major Lawrence mention that there has been a very great Clamour amongst the Soldiers, some for their pay and others for their Discharge, that he had endeavour'd to pacify them and discharg'd two at the Head of the Troops specifying that they had behav'd well but quitted the Field in the Face of an Enemy which he was in hopes would have a good Effect and shame the Rest; His other Letters contain a Narrative of his Proceedings with the Army, and the different Motions of the Enemy, that he had not been able to obtain any Account to be depended on of their Force; that the Nabob and his Allies were determin'd if possible

———*FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, AUGUST 1752.*———

to bring them to a General Engagement, but they are as careful to avoid it, and keep within their own Bounds, which in Consequence of our Orders he had given strict Commands no man should presume to Plunder or enter on pain of Death, and the Nabob had done the same, but that notwithstanding there was no Possibility of restraining the Morattas in the Army who had burnt and plunder'd some deserted Villages, that a Party of the Enemy having ventur'd out of the Bounds were pursued by a Detachment of the Nabob's Troops into Villenour from whence after a smart Fire they were dislodg'd and the Pagoda remains in the Nabob's Possession. That two of Captain Schaub's Company came into Camp who said they deserted from Pondicherry, Captain Gauppe suspecting them found on Examination they were Spies sent in by the French to seduce the Swiss; they were tried for it, confess'd the Fact, and as it was the Opinion of all the Swiss Officers they should suffer Death, the Sentence was put in Execution; the Major also in a Letter receiv'd from him this Morning mentions that $M^{r.}$ Dupliex had desir'd Leave to send a Vakeel to the Nabob, which was granted, and that the Nabob seems inclin'd to Peace at any Rate.

Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly writes that the Behaviour of the Mysore King and Moraree is so inconsistent and various, that 'tis evidently calculated to conceal their real Intentions, sometimes the King makes Professions of Friendship at others he does not scruple to declare publickly that there must very shortly be an open Rupture and in that case the Morattas are to plunder the Arcot Country and prevent the Nabob from getting any Money; That He and Moraree are now very g[ood] Friends, though they would be thought otherwise, have la[tely] concluded a Treaty and solemnly ratify'd it in presence of their God at Syringham Pagoda, and the latter has declar'd positively that two thousand Horse are to march immediately to join the Nabob, and makes great Protestations of Friendship, at the same time his whole Behaviour shews that the Treaty on Foot between him and Kiroudy Cawn is only to amuse and that he has no real Intentions of concluding it; They are very anxious about getting Possession of the Outposts.

Captain Sanderson at Arcot advises that several of the Military whose times are near expiring insist on being sent to Madrass in order to obtain their Discharge.

The President's Letters are also read and approv'd $viz^{t.}$

To Major Lawrence that he would do right to pursue his Resolution of not attacking the French in their own Bounds, or even entering therein, but to engage them if they venture out, and in case of Success, the most adviseable Step for the Nabob to take, seems to be to attempt the Reduction of Changleput, Wondivash and Chetteput.

And Draught of a Letter intended to be sent to Major Lawrence is now read on the Subject of $M^{r.}$ Dupliex's desiring to send a Vakeel to the Nabob; that if it should be to treat of Peace, however desirous the latter may be of it, these are the Terms he ought to insist on vizt That Bawoor, Trivedy, Covelon with all their Districts, All the Districts lying between Pondicherry old Limits and St David be in the Hands of the Government as formerly, als [*Sic*] Porto Novo, and that the French shall not hereafter possess them but the Nabob in lieu give them Jageers in other Places except Conjeveram, Tripassoor, Covrepauk, Changleput; That whatever Jageers the French or English may have, the Goods of each Nation pass through such Jageers without Molestation Custom free.

That the King of Tanjour be included in this Treaty and remain unmolested in his Dominions.

That the French enter into an Alliance to assist the Nabob against his Enemies.

That the Nabob be acknowledg'd as Nabob of the Province in the same full and extensive Manner as his Father.

That this Treaty be ratifyed by the Nabob, the English, French and King of Tanjour, the Seals of the Governments and Companies affix'd to it.

That upon this Peace being concluded, the Prisoners be deliver'd up.

That every thing pass'd be buried in Oblivion.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1752.*——

To Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly, that if he should be attack'd, to defend the Fort to the last Extremity and in case of any Emergency to burst all the Guns and Mortars and destroy all Warlike Stores rather than suffer them to fall into the Enemy's Hands.

Letter from Mr. Dupliex N° 19 dated 30th August NS. with the several Papers accompanying it is now read as enter'd in the French Correspondence.

The President acquaints the Board that he is inform'd the King of Mysore has wrote to the Nabob that as the Time for the Delivery of Trichinopoly according to Agreement draws near, if it is not comply'd with he will send the Morattas into the Arcot Country to plunder it. As the Nabob has no Intention of performing his Promise we are apprehensive he may have endeavour'd in some Measure to excuse himself and throw the Odium on us by saying that Trichinopoly is mortgag'd to us, and should this be the case, as we must at all Events agreeable to our Treaty as well as Interest, assist him against his Enemies; we shall probably be deem'd Principals which may induce the Enemy to plunder our Countries of Poonamalee &ca. Villages, it is therefore thought absolutely necessary to use our Endeavours to convince the Mysoreans and Morattas that we are quite disinterested in this Affair and shall not concern ourselves in it, either one way or the other.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AB WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ. GOV., PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH, JOHN SMITH. **Fryday the 28th**

A Letter from Mr Starke and Major Lawrence to the President and Council dated 25th Instant read acquainting us that they had had a Consultation with the Nabob on the present Situation of his Affairs in the Course of which he inform'd them that notwithstanding Mr. Dupliex has been using his Endeavours to gain over the Morattas, yet he had lately receiv'd a Letter from Moraree promising that if he will insure the same Pay to him and his Troops that he at present receives from the Mysore Daloway together with a Present of two Lack of Rupees, he will join him directly and take an Oath not to fight against his Colours whilst he continues in his Service, but that he expects his Share of the Guns Ammunition and Elephants taken at Syringham to be deliver'd on signing the Agreement. The Nabob is very desirous that all Moraree's Proposals be complied with, as he sees no Probability of ever finishing the War without it, the Mysoreans without the Morattas being of very little Signification, and if he can bring this Point to bear, he shall give himself no Trouble about them.

That they readily agreed Moraree should have his Share of the Plunder with the Proviso that the Guns and Ammunition should be employed for the Good of the Common Cause and not be divided 'till a Peace was concluded, but on asking the Nabob how he could comply with the other Demands of the Moratta, he answer'd that as for the two Lack he could put him off for some time with promises and in regard to the pay which was seven thousand Rupees a day he should consider of it, and beg'd they would, that Innis Cawn (one of the Moratta Officers) would be there in a few days, with three thousand Horse, and desir'd that they would not mind Trifles but engage them if possible to serve him.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, AUGUST 1752.*——

To which they reply'd that they could not pretend to advance or promise him Money on this Account, but after telling him it was very likely they only amus'd him and intended to join his Enemies they went on to the Article of Winter Quarters and acquainted him it was impossible our Troops could keep the Field during the Monsoon without risquing the whole by Distempers. He answer'd the Army must first attack the Enemy, beat them, then march and take Chetteput and Changleput, which are sufficient to contain all our Forces, but on the whole seem'd averse to doing any thing but attacking the Enemy, reducing their Strong Holds, and engaging the Morattas without considering the Improbability there might be of succeeding in all or any of those Attempts.

That they promis'd him the English would always be his Friends which he had no Reason to doubt and in return he declared that he never would take any Step with Mr Dupliex but what was for our Advantage or by our Direction.

That upon the whole they find the Nabob dispos'd for Peace at any Rate with one party or the other provided Trichinopoly is secured to him, though he proposes very odd Methods to acquire it, on the other Hand M^r. Dupliex asks for all, the French and Chundah's People are possess'd of besides Trivedy into the Bargain with the Restitution of the French Prisoners before he begins to treat. That they think the means of managing the Morattas are monstrous for should they join the Nabob on the Terms above propos'd he will never be able to find Money enough to keep his word with them & the least Failure will make an excellent pretext for them to fall on us and go over to the Enemy which will leave us worse then they found us.

It is therefore Their Opinion that if the Enemy won't risque a Battle we should provide for the Security of the Places we have got as soon as possible, and that the Army march into the Arcot Country for Winter Quarters, particular Care being had of the Nabob's Person but that in the mean time no Occasion of distressing the Enemy should be omitted before the Monsoon.

The Board having well consider'd and deliberated on the Subject of the foregoing Letter are of Opinion that it would be very imprudent for the Nabob to enter into an Engagement with the Morattas which he is so evidently incapable of performing, as it will not only give them a fair pretence of going over to the Enemy but distress him greatly in the mean time [*a word or two lost*] draining him of all his ready Money, for which there is so pressing a necessity to discharge the Arrears due to his own Troops; on the other hand should they immediately go over to the Enemy it may turn the Ballance in their favour, which at present seems to incline to ours. It is therefore judg'd most adviseable on this critical Occasion to amuse the Morattas for a w[hile by] a Negotiation on the Subject of their Allowances and [*a few words lost*] time that all possible Endeavours be us'd to draw [*a few words lost*] an Engagement, which if it should be attended with [Success] as there is good Reason to hope from the new Recruits their Army is chiefly compos'd of, will be a powerful Motive to the Morattas (ever inclin'd to take part with the strongest) [to] join the Nabob on more reasonable Terms. And as to Win[ter] Quarters, although it be an Affair worthy of Attention, yet as the Army can keep the Field a considerable Time longer, the[ir] more immediate Concern should be to attempt the Reduction of Chetteput, Changleput and Wondivash and provide for the Security of the Arcot Country, as the only means of relieving the Nabob from his present Distress for Money, however the Pres[i]dent is desir'd to acquaint Major Lawrence with our Sentime[nts] and advise him to consult with the Nabob, as they being on the Spot must be the best Judges.

Letter to Mr Dupliex and the Superiour Council of Pondicherry dated this day is now read and sign'd as enter'd in the French Correspondence N° 20

THO^S. SAUNDERS
CHA^S: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
A^R WYNCH
JOHN SMITH

—*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1752.*—

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH

Monday the 31st. The President lays before the Board sundry Letters from Camp and the Garrisons vizt

From Major Lawrence giving us the agreeable News that the Allied Army having by a Feint of withdrawing, tempted the Enemy out of their Bounds, had attack'd them and gain'd a compleat Victory over them, the greatest part of their whole Force being either kill'd or taken Prisoners and all their Guns, Tents, Baggage &c. being in the Nabob's Possession, who is determin'd to send the Prisoners to Trivedy and will trust no more Officers on their Parole except Mr. De K'jean who is gone into Pondicherry dangerously wounded. Major Lawrence complains of the Want of Officers which he says is so great that several Platoons must be march'd with Serjeants.

Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly writes that two thousand Morattas under the Command of Innis Cawn and Chettapah were on their March to join the Nabob, and Moraree has sent him a Message expressing his great Satisfaction that Trichinopoly is not deliver'd up, saying he should never be easy to see it in the King of Mysore's Possession.

Captain Sanderson advises that the Enemy with thirty Europeans, four hundred Seapoys and the like Number of Country Poligars with two Pieces of Cannon have attack'd and taken Utrimaloor a Place near Conjeveram.

The President's Letters are also read

Those to Major Lawrence are chiefly on the Subject of last Consultation.

To Captain Dalton that however anxious the Mysoreans may be to get possession of the Outposts of Trichinopoly, they must not be deliver'd up as the [*Sic*] Command the Avenues and may hinder Provisions from being brought into the Town and that this may be assign'd as the Reason for refusing the King's Request if he should still persist in it.

To Captain Sanderson at Arcot directing him to call in what Parties are not immediately necessary abroad and send Lieutenant Smith with thirty Europeans to Poonamalee without delay. Which the Board approve.

The President acquaints the Board that he had concerted with the Nabob Measures for reducing Saudet Bunder Fort and Changleput to his Obedience which they are of Opinion will greatly contribute to the Tranquillity of the Country about us, as these Places give the Enemy Opportunities of making frequent Incursions into our Villages of Poonamalee, St. Thomé &ca. and that the Nabob had promis'd (if the Plan be approv'd) to send a Detachment of his Troops to join what Forces we can assemble without weakening the grand Army and attempt the Enterprize, whereupon it is debated how far we can be assisting therein as the French Colours are hoisted on the former, and it being consider'd that although these Places are now in Possession of the French, yet as they hold them only by right of Conquest, without any Cession, Legal Grant or Phirmaund, the Nabob's natural Claim to them as Governour of the Carnateck Country remains unimpeach'd and in this Light we are of Opinion that we may agreeable to the Law of Nations or rather the Custom of Europe (not to mention the Example shew'd us by the French in attacking Arcot & Coiladdy where our Colours were flying) without infringing the late Treaty of Peace between our Sovereign and the French King, assist the Nabob in consequence of our Alliance with the Circar in recovering these Places. It is therefore Agreed that Captain Clive with what Forces can be spar'd from this Garrison and such as can be drawn together from Poonamalee &c. proceed to join a Detachment of the Nabob's Troops and in conjunction with them undertake the Siege of Saudet Bunder Fort.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1752.*——

The President produces to the Board a Letter he has receiv'd from Major Lawrence dated the 29th Instant which is read, representing that Messrs Ripington and Kirk behav'd very gallantly in the late Action with the Enemy and that the Success we gain'd over them was greatly owing thereto, that Serjeant Nelson has also signaliz'd himself both in that and every other Action he has been in and that though he is in the greatest Want of Officers he dares not appoint any as his first did not take place, but observes that we may suffer greatly by it. This Reflection the President acquaints the Board he imagines to proceed from Mr. Lawrence's having nominated Mr. Ripington to do Duty as a Lieutenant and his disapproving thereof as he was but lately arriv'd and mention'd only as a Voluntier by the Company and particularly as it would be superceding several of our Subaltern Officers whose Behaviour had been very satisfactory, therefore contrary to the Company's Express Orders and a great Hardship on them, however as there was now so great a Necessity for Officers and by the Arrival of the Recruits this Season from England, too many Men for the twelve Companies establish'd for the Coast and from the Conversation he had had with the Major before his Departure, it was concluded between them necessary to make two new Companies, our Number of Officers being greatly insufficient for so many Men; That if this met with the Board's Approbation they might then have an Opportunity of giving Lieutenant's Commissions to such as are at present only Ensigns & making Mr. Ripington the youngest Lieutenant as a Recompence for his late Behaviour which would prejudice no one in their Rank as those to succeed to the Ensigns Commissions are now only Voluntiers, and he imagin'd this might also be agreeable to Major Lawrence; The same being accordingly deliberated on the Board entirely concur therein, judging it a Matter of great Consequence to prevent the Service suffering by the Want of Officers, and as they would by all means avoid giving Major Lawrence any Motive for being disgusted, it is Agreed before any Determination be made on the Affair that the same be communicated to him.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT.
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH
Major Kinneer sick

Saturday the 16th N.S.

Letter from Richard Starke Esq and Major Lawrence read, acquainting us that they had consulted together on the Subject of the Nabob's Affair and were of Opinion that it will be impossible to secure Trivedy effectually from any Attempts of the Enemy and yet keep a tolerable Force in the Field, that as it will certainly be impossible for the Nabob to keep his word with Moraree, there are no other means but amusing him, That whatever might be the Nabob's Opinion before the Battle they don't think he would differ with us about anything now, they therefore desire we will weigh well the Garrisoning Trivedy and send full Orders, but that at present they don't see what can be done further to distress the Enemy without following them in the Field, for the attacking strong Places would only weaken and in the End destroy us, so that from hence a judgment may be form'd of Winter Quarters and whether leaving our own Bounds may not endanger their being plunder'd by the Enemy.

——FORT ST GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1752.——

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Major Lawrence wherein he writes that Mr. Dupliex had sent an Officer and his Dubash as Interpreter to the Nabob with Proposals that all the Officers should be sent to Pondicherry on their parole after which he would treat of Peace, this being absolutely refus'd, they then declar'd their Commission was at End but the Dubash desir'd to communicate something to the Nabob in private which amounted to this that Madam Dupliex was entirely devoted to serve him and had interceded with the Nabob her Husband but that he was too much irritated at present to listen to her for which Reason she counsell'd him to send in all the Prisoners, after which she knew a Peace might be brought about, but the Nabob rejected the Proposal with Scorn and is determin'd to send them all to Trivedy. He also mentions that the Mysoreans and Morattas are to come to join the Nabob, but plunder all the way and are stopp'd at Trivenaloor on hearing of the late Success, that he thinks if a Letter were sent the King threatening to enter his Country with Fire and Sword if he does not desist it would have a good Effect. That Mr. Dauteuil is at Ariacopang with two hundred Europeans, three hundred Seapoys and a few Horse.

The present Circumstances of Affairs being taken into Consideration and the Measures proper to be pursued maturely weigh'd and deliberated on, We are of Opinion that with respect to the Prisoners, the Affront Mr Dupliex has offer'd us in seizing and detaining Captain Schaub and his Detachment, as well as his Disapproval of the French Prisoners being kept at our Settlements render it very improper for us to intercede with the Nabob in behalf of those taken in the last Action, unless he will deliver up our Detachment and acknowledge that the Nabob's Prisoners already at Fort St David are lawfully there and that he has no Objection to it, in which case only we think Application should be made to the Nabob, that the Officers may be suffer'd to go on their Parole to Pondicherry and the Men be sent to St. David or Madrass. As to peace it is with great Concern we perceive little Reason to think Mr. Dupliex at all dispos'd towards it, on the contrary we look upon it as a Point beyond Dispute, that his Scheme does not terminate in this province but the whole Coast, as we are credibly inform'd that Proposals were sent to France from Mustapha Jing for two thousand Troops to be sent out and kept in his pay, the Consequences of which it is easy to perceive would be very destructive of the Company's Interest, It behoves us therefore to be much on our Guard against the Artifices he may employ to accomplish his Views, and we cannot help regarding in this Light the extraordinary Preliminaries on which he offers to treat with the Nabob, and Mrs Dupliex's Insinuation amounting to nothing less than the previous delivering up of all the French Prisoners, which if comply'd with will put it in his Power to carry on the War again with Fresh Vigour especially if the Mysoreans and Morattas should join him, and in that case they will certainly be more inclin'd to do it, as there will be a better Prospect of plundering the Arcot Country and other Districts with Impunity. We are therefore of Opinion that Mr Dupliex's Proposals are such as can by no means be admitted. In regard to the King of Mysore as he has certainly advanc'd large Sums of Money on the Nabob's Account which has been of great Service to him, we think he ought in justice to assign some Rents for the Payment, if the King should not be satisfied with this but declare openly, he will be the Aggressor and we must assist the Nabob against him as an Enemy. In this Situation of Affairs we are of opinion that it will be most adviseable for the Nabob with the Army to continue at Trivedy, or as Occasion may require shift his Encampment, which may prevent the Morattas (should they have any such Design) from joining the Enemy, and be a Protection to the several Districts round St David; on the contrary, should the Nabob move, all that Country will be open to the Enemy. And a Draught of a Letter to Major Lawrence to the foregoing Effect is ordered to be drawn out.

The President also lays before the Board, two other Letters he has receiv'd from Major Lawrence which are accordingly read, the first dated the 2d instant requesting to be reliev'd, alledging that the Pain he has endur'd ever since he has

been in the Field, the Difficulty he labours under from the badness of his Interpreter, and the Slights he has receiv'd since he came last into the Country, make him incapable of serving (though he shall always wish well to) the Company, and is sorry he is oblig'd to ask Leave to retire from the Service and go home, which he would not do if he could be of any use here that if we will give him Permission he intends to prepare himself for the first Ship, and represents the Swiss, both Officers and Men to have behav'd remarkably well in the late Action.

The second dated the 14th Instant, representing that he imagin'd when he last engag'd in the Company's Service that he should have had the naming to the President, the Officer he thought properest to advance and to have had some little Direction of their Military Affairs, but finds himself only a Cypher and not able to answer what they might reasonably expect from him; he must beg the Favour of the President to appoint the new Companies and their Officers for he never will name one that he may not be expos'd again to have his Appointment set aside.

The Board having well consider'd the Purport thereof are concern'd to observe that notwithstanding the Precaution they took at their last Meeting not to determine upon the Appointment of the two New Companies and the Officers that Major Lawrence might have no just Cause to be disgusted, yet the foregoing shew very plainly he is really so, and seems likewise dissatisfied with what was then propos'd, which they are at a Loss to guess the Reason of, unless it is what the President communicated to them at last Consultation concerning Mr Ripington though as he says the Major in Conversation with him on that Subject when here (at which time he represented to him the Inconveniences that would attend such a Proceeding) had assur'd him he was perfectly satisfy'd about it, they are apprehensive there must be another Cause that has arose from some Misunderstanding, and as it would be the greatest Imprudence to admit of any Differences between us, at this Critical Juncture or gratify the Major in his Request to be reliev'd and proceed to Europe, being convinc'd we have no Officer so capable as himself of conducting Our Military Affairs, The only method that occurs to clear up this matter is to come to an Explanation as we don't in the least doubt but as soon as that is done, a perfect Harmony will again subsist. A Letter from the President to the Major is therefore accordingly now draughted out as follows vizt

TO STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR FORT ST GEORGE 17TH SEPTEM 1752.

Sir

I have receiv'd your Letters of the 2d & 14th, wherein you desire I would procure Leave of the Governour and Council for you to retire; This might be judg'd a Step extremely imprudent in both of us, Consider the present Situation of Affairs, the Honour of our Nation at Stake, the Welfare of our Masters, to whom we owe our Fortunes, in danger; At this juncture to desert their Cause and be engag'd in private Disputes when the greatest Harmony is necessary, is what neither you nor I would do.

An ill State of Health, Slights, and want of an Interpreter are the Inducements. I am extremely sorry for your Illness to which the Fatigues you are liable exposes you I have not a proper Officer to relieve you, if it continues I am afraid our Affairs will suffer, therefore hope you will do your utmost, as you are extremely sensible that the Least Alteration in our Affairs may ruin us.

I flatter'd myself when you left Madras, every thing was easy, as you seem'd satisfy'd with the Answers I made you. I am sorry it is otherwise and am I assure you at a Loss to know what is the Occasion of it, if you will point out the Slights that have been offer'd I promise you the severest Scrutiny into them. I shall always shew the greatest Complaisance to every one as I expect it myself.

——FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1752.——

In regard to Publick affairs I shall be govern'd by the Company's Orders, the Military Regulations are the Basis wherein it expressly says each Officer is to succeed according to his Rank, except any just Objection to it. The Honourable Treatment the Company have shewn me in this Respect, makes me particularly cautious how I infringe it. You I believe quitted the King's Service because you was superceded and will I am sure make the Case of these Gentlemen your own, tis certainly yours to recommend; I don't interfere in it but desire you will consider those Officers who have in general been in the Field and behav'd well.

I have sent to Paupa Braminy to go to You.

Be assur'd I shall always very gladly contribute to your Ease and hope Affairs will take such a Turn that we may all enjoy our former Tranquillity.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

THOMAS SAUNDERS.

THOS: SAUNDERS

CHAS. BODDAM

HENRY POWNEY

AR WYNCH

JOHN SMITH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT

CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY

ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH

Major Kinneer sick

Monday The 18th.

The President lays before the Board a Letter he has receiv'd from Richard Bourchier Esqr Governour of Bombay acquainting him that Nana *, the Moratta Head General (and in reality the Acting Man, the Sou Rajah being little more than a Cypher) had lately sent a Vakeel to him desiring his Allyance and Assistance and promising in return to grant us all our Priviledges and at the same time informs him that his Master had join'd Gazedy Cawn with a considerable Body of Morattas to escort him to Aurungabad in order to take charge of the Decan Country, to which Government the Mogul had appointed him and that Gauzedy Cawn had desir'd him to write to us to assist Mahomed Ally Cawn. All which being duly consider'd, we are of Opinion that it would be greatly to the Company's Advantage could we assist in settling Gazedy Cawn in the Peaceable Possession of the Decan Country and prevent the French from cultivating an Alliance with him, in case Salabat Jung should submit, but as we cannot do this from hence having no Person we can confide in to send as a Vakeel, nor will the Troubles in the Country admit of our sending a Force. Therefore the President is desir'd to write to Goṽ. Bourchier to request he will send what Force he can spare to join Gazedy Cawn at Aurungabad, and a Vakeel to assure him of our ready Assistance and endeavour to obtain a Confirmation of our Grants of Poonamalee, St. Thomé and Trivendupuram, a Phirmaund for Diu Island, to get the Rents of Madrass and Vizagapatam remitted, an order for our Factory at Metchlepatam to be restor'd; That in Consideration of the Damages, the Company have sustain'd by the Factory at Ingeram being plunder'd and destroyed the Government grant us Permission to establish one at Coringee, as also a Factory at Bander Malanka in lieu of that taken from us at Maddapollam, and likewisea Phirmaund to assist Mahomed Ally in settling the Province.

* alias **Balasa**row

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1752.*——

The Camp and Military Correspondence is also read.

Major Lawrence writes that Mr Dupliex has propos'd to the Nabob that if he will keep the Prisoners in Trivedy he promises not to appear before that Fort which was consented to and they are accordingly sent there where the Army is also arriv'd.

Captain Dalton advises that the time being expir'd for the Delivery of Trichinopoly, the King of Mysore has sent to Kiroudy Cawn to demand it ; That Moraree has receiv'd a Letter from Mr Dupliex desiring his Assistance and as he says offers him a much larger Sum than he receives from the King, and Mr Dupliex hearing he is in want of Firelocks tells him he has always thirty thousand to spare in Pondicherry and will let him have as many as he pleases at eight Rupees each, he says he has return'd for Answer, that his present Engagement with the Mysore Daloway puts it out of his Power to enter into any other Service ; he also mentions that the News of the late Victory threw the King into much Disorder, and Moraree express'd great Joy at it, but his real Sentiments are impenetrable.

The Letters from Captain Clive give an Account of his being before Saudet Bander Fort, that he had reconnoitred it, and judg'd its Situation very strong, however he was preparing a Battery which would shortly be finish'd, that Lieut^s Cooper with a Detachment having taken Possession of a House and Garden about half a Mile from the Fort, Part of the Garrison made a Sally, upon which his whole Detachment except a few Voluntiers fled and left him wounded in the Enemy's Possession who carried him into the Fort.

The President's Letters are

To Major Lawrence acquainting him with the Advices receiv'd from Captain Clive and that if the Nabob would move towards Waldour, it might prevent the Enemy sending any Supplies to Saudet Bander, that the Troops have taken Possession of the proper Places for an Attack and the Battering Cannon are gone.

To Captain Clive advising him that Lieutenant Smith with a Detachment from Poonamalee is ordered to join him and that the Battering Cannon with Ammunition will be with him as this day.

To Captain Dalton directing him to acquaint the King of Mysore that the Morattas plunder all the Country they pass through in their March this way and that as he brought these People with him, We shall look upon him as answerable for all the Damages they commit and shall write to Gazedy Cawn on that Subject.

All which the Board approve.

THO^S SAUNDERS
CHA^S BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
A^R WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R GOV^R PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH.

Tuesday The 19th

Major Kinneer sick

The President produces a Letter from Mr Dupliex N° 22, dated the 15th Instant, enclosing Copy of a Phirmaund which he says he has receiv'd from the Great Mogul, approving of whatever he has done in favour of Salabat Jung and directing him to continue his Assistance, at the same time offering us the Liberty of comparing it with the Original. This extraordinary Phirmaund which Mr Dupliex, by the Title of Zupher Jung, pretends to have receiv'd so opportunely being consider'd

we are of Opinion is spurious, because the Advices lately receiv'd from Bombay and other parts are so contrary, and inform us that the Mogul so far from approving Salabat Jung, had appointed Gazedy Cawn to the Decan Government, who was actually on his March to Aurungabad, and also because it is extremely different from the Form and Stile in which Paper of this Kind are usually worded, and to this may be added that from many recent Instances we are convinc'd that Counterfeiting is held no Crime at Pondicherry when any extraordinary Difficulties are to be remov'd. Mr Dupliex we imagine concludes, and very justly that if he could induce us to credit his Assertion that this Phirmaund actually came from the Mogul, we should withdraw our Assistance from Mahomed Ally Cawn which would not only relieve him from his present Perplexities but give him an Opportunity of accomplishing his ambitious Views; But as for the aforemention'd Reasons we cannot think this Phirmaund really came from Court, where we have good Grounds to think Salabat Jung and his Friends Interest is not very powerful, It is unanimously Resolved to continue our Operations with Vigour, and assist the Nabob to regain his lost Dominions, and that Captain Clive proceed in Execution of the Plan against Saudet Bander Fort.

It is also Agreed to detain the Chesterfield a few days longer in the Road and to spread abroad a Report of our Intentions to send her on some Secret Expedition, which may engage Mr Dupliex's Attention and thereby prevent his sending a Reinforcement to Saudet Bander.

Draught of a Letter to Mr Dupliex in answer to that from him enclosing the Phirmaund, is now read approv'd and order'd to be copied fair, as enter'd in the French Correspondence N° 23.

Draught of a Letter from the President to Richard Bourchier Esq. Governour of Bombay read and approv'd, Copy whereof follows vizt

To the Honble Richard Bourchier EsqR

Honble Sir

Upon your Advice of Nanah's sending a Vakeel to You, desiring you would write us to assist Mahomed Ally Cawn, it won't be amiss to set before you the Cause from whence these Troubles arose.

Erait Moodeen Cawn disgusted at the Conduct of Nazir Jung towards him was retired to his Countries of Rajoor and Andany when Chunda Saib, releas'd by the Morattas came to him, he first purpos'd to Erait Moodeen Cawn the displacing Anaverdy Cawn and seizing the Province; Measures being concerted and the French through Hopes of large Advantages being made a Party; though Mr Dupliex says Ill Treatment of French Prisoners was the Inducement; they march'd and engag'd Anaverdy Cawn near Arcot, in this Battle he lost his Life, and hence the Misery that has since overrun this Province. Erait Moodeen Cawn's Views became now more extensive, which occasion'd the Presence of Nazir Jung in these Parts; The English join'd him, the Enemy retreated before his Army and Erait Moodeen Cawn surrender'd; Nazir Jung influenc'd by the Sollicitations of his Ministers sav'd his Life, Confinement was the only mark of his Resentment, unhappy that it was so, for this Act of Clemency and Humanity, hardly known to Eastern Princes, was his Ruin. Cabals were form'd by Shawnavaz Cawn, Chunda Saib and some others; Nazir Jung elated by some slight successes neglected us; The French attack'd the Rear of his Army when the Cuddapah and Condanore Nabobs in his Service kill'd him. This Sir was the Tragical End of that Prince which has given Rise to those pompous Accounts which you will see in the Paris Gazette and this has rais'd the Ambitious Views of the French to aim at greater Conquests and pursue the Ruin of our Trade. This Revolution furnish'd them with very powerful Means to effect it. Erait Moodeen Cawn was releas'd, proclaim'd at Pondicherry and all the Riches of Nazir Jung fell into their Hands. Mr Dupliex became now sole Arbiter of the Decan Government,

——FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1752.——

in a short time it was concluded that Erait Moodeen Cawn should proceed to Golcondah and settle his Affairs there, to facilitate which a Body of French Troops accompanied him, he had reach'd the Districts of Cuddapah when Disputes arose, a Battle ensued and he was kill'd by the Troops of the Cuddapah Nabob; so short liv'd was his power attain'd by wicked Means. Salabat Jung was immediately proclaim'd by the Army, he continued the March for Golcondah with the French Troops, part of whom were kill'd in the Engagement, and here I will leave him for a time and reassume the Scene of this Province. On the Death of Nazir Jung, as we had receiv'd Jageers from the Circar, we continued to support Mahomed Ally who had the Legal Phirmaund for the Subahship of Arcot, a Detachment was sent him to Trichinopoly where he had made his Escape, at the same time we contracted an Alliance with the King of Tanjore, Every thing was easy 'till the Month of March, when Chunda Saib with the French took the Field, and reduc'd several Forts, Our Forces join'd Mahomed Ally which brought on an Engagement at Wolcondah, not much to the Nabob's Credit, a Retreat was the Consequence, 'till arriv'd under the Walls of Trichinopoly. The Enemy followed and encamping at a convenient Distance carried on their Approaches. The Nabob's Affairs appear'd in the month of August in a gloomy Situation, A Diversion was purpos'd, it succeeded in the Taking of Arcot, This drew off some of the Enemy's Force, who under the Command of Chunda's Son undertook to retake it. A regular Siege was laid to it and two large Breaches being made, the Enemy storm'd it in four different Places, they met with a very severe Repulse, their Loss was very considerable and had such an Effect that they decamp'd in the Night leaving their Cannon and Baggage. A Reinforcement and some Morattas appearing contributed to this Success, it was follow'd by a compleat Victory in the Field at Aranie which greatly disconcerted the Enemy's Measures. This fills up the Space between August and January, when the Enemy again recover'd their Spirits and again took the field under young Chunda, they ravag'd and plunder'd our Jageers within a small Distance from Madras and carried the Furniture of our Mount Houses to Pondicherry; Flush'd with this inglorious Triumph they had form'd a Design to surprize Arcot. The Nabob had time to form a small Party which by precipitate Marches came up with them at Covrepauk, fell upon them though strongly encamp'd and gain'd one of the Compleatest Victories during the Course of the Troubles, many kill'd wounded and taken Prisoners, the rest dispers'd. Cannon and Baggage the Conqueror's Reward. Let us now return to Trichinopoly & view what has pass'd during the long Interval. The Enemy made their Approaches but slowly, the Nabob was at an Expence to him insupportable, Blockade seem'd more probable than a Siege and in time Scarcity of Provisions must have oblig'd him to surrender. He negotiated with the Mysore King who with his own Forces join'd him as did the King of Tanjour, No Appearance of Trouble here; Captain Clive with a strong Detachment was ready at St David to reinforce the Nabob, the Durrington arriv'd when Major Lawrence took the Command, he join'd the Combin'd Army under the Walls of Trichinopoly, meeting with but slight Interruption in his March. The Enemy thought fit to decamp in the Night; they made a handsome Retreat to Syringham, a strong Place situated on an Island without Loss of a Man, Cannon or Baggage, as they were numerous many dispers'd which was a Convenience to them, a few days cut off their Communication, a large Reinforcement coming to their Assistance was defeated at Wolcondah and taken Prisoners, and Syringham surrender'd to the Nabob, Chunda Saib having before been deliver'd up to the King of Tanjour's General, who cut off his Head. With this we flatter'd ourselves our Troubles would end, but Fortune ever fluctuating, The Nabob had secretly promis'd Trichinopoly to the King of Mysore, He demanded it and hence Cursed Division that plung'd him again to the Brink of Ruin; Six Weeks that would have reduc'd the whole Province to his Obedience were wasted. The French Ships arriv'd with Forces and Seapoys were collected, and now again Janus's Doors are open'd, the Nabob was at last oblig'd to move without his Allies, who continued at Trichinopoly, in his March he took Trivedy and made an unsuccessful Attempt on Gingee, in his Retreat a Skirmish happen'd wherein he was worsted;

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1752.*——

At this juncture his Affairs were at the lowest Ebb, I have yet known them ; The Enemy encourag'd by this late Affair encamp'd upon the Edge of our Bounds of St David; the Nabob's Army mov'd from Trivedy and lay in Sight of them, they decamp'd in the Night and took the Rout of Pondicherry follow'd by the Nabob to the Edge of their Bounds which were held sacred ; Nothing to be effected, they return'd, the Enemy three days after appear'd in Sight which brought on a Battle attended with the greatest Success the Nabob has yet met with, two hundred kill'd sixteen Officers, eighty two Prisoners, Loss of Baggage and Cannon Only a hundred escap'd to Pondicherry, I mean exclusive of Seapoys, Numbers of whom were kill'd, Since this nothing has happen'd but the Taking of Covelon, and Changleput being besieg'd. It is inconceivable to imagine the Miseries these Troubles have brought on the Province. Mr Dupliex has had very advantagious Offers from the Nabob, but is deaf to all Proposals.

We have receiv'd Letters from Gazedy Cawn and Nana desiring our Assistance to Mahomed Ally and advising of their March to Aurungabad. To give you my Opinion our Affairs here depend greatly on these two Points, the supporting Gauzedy Cawn and if Salabat Jung should submit, to prevent the French from cultivating an Alliance with him Gazedy Cawn, this we cannot do from hence as we have no Person to send as a Vakeel, nor will the Troubles here or the Roads admit of sending a Force ; Could you without Inconvenience to your own Affairs do this, 'twould be of infinite Service. The Rights we want to be confirm'd are.

To get a Perwana from the Mogul for the following

Our Jageer of Poonamalee

St Thomé

Trevendapuram to be confirm'd to us.

Diu Island, for which we have a Phirmaund, to be confirm'd.

Madrass not to be liable to a Present of P. 1200 ℔ annum, but be free.

Vizagapatam not to be subject to the same Sum, but be free.

An Order for our Factory at Metchlepatam to be restor'd.

Our Factory at Maddapollam has been debarr'd us, an order for one at Bander Malanka.

Our Factory at Ingeram has been taken from us by the Moors, an Order for one at Coringe.

A Phirmaund to assist Mahomed Ally in settling the Province.

I cannot conclude this long Address without telling you Mr Dupliex assumes so many Characters as his Affairs require that 'tis difficult to distinguish him, sometimes Ally, at others Principal. When Syringham surrender'd to the Nabob, the Commanding Officer requested that the Prisoners might remain in our Settlements & not be expos'd to the Cruelty of the Moors, this Major Lawrence granted, Mr Dupliex demands them and has on this Account made Prisoners a Detachment of ours going from hence with a proper Passport for St David, by which I judge he will keep no Measures with us, He has given such Sanguine Hopes to his Court that as he finds himself disappointed in his Scheme, he will if possible involve the Nation in a War ; accompanying this are several Extracts relating to Tellicherry. I am

Honble Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Fort St George
24th September 1752

THOMAS SAUNDERS

P.S.

I forgot to mention to you our having receiv'd a few days since from Mr Dupliex, Copy of a Phirmaund which he says was sent him by the Mogul, wherein it is express'd that He consents to his being gratified in every thing Salabad Jung has petition'd for in his (Mr Dupliex's) Behalf, approves his Alliance with Salabad Jung, and directs him to continue to assist him and accompany him should he march towards his Court. Many Reasons induce us to look upon it to be spurious; First as it is so contrary to your Advices and those we have receiv'd of Gazedy Cawn's Appointment to the Decan Principality and being on his March from Delhi. Secondly because upon Examination it is found to be dated only nine days after Gazedy Cawn is said to have set out from thence and it can't be imagin'd that the Mogul would without any Reason so suddenly change his Resolution; The Stile of it is also very different from that which is peculiar to such Papers and it's coming at this Juncture when their Affairs are in such Extremity and in a fair way of being further reduc'd, we think are convincing Proofs of the Justness of our Opinion.

THO^S SAUNDERS.
CHA^S BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
A^R WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R, PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH
Major Kinneer sick.

The Military Correspondence is read as follows.

Monday the 25th

From Major Lawrence, that Mr Dupliex has sent the Nabob Word that Salabat Jung's Vakeel with two from himself are coming to treat of Peace, and desires to be inform'd whether the Plan of Peace formerly sent is to be pursued or higher Demands made on account of the late Victory; That Innis Cawn, a Moratta Officer has join'd the Nabob and sworn that he will serve him against all his Enemies and has put himself entirely under his Orders. The Nabob thinks as the Enemy's whole Force is at Waldour it would be better to turn his Thoughts on something else for to appear before the Place and not carry it would hurt him in the Eyes of the World, he therefore proposes to leave the Prisoners at Trivedy and sixty Europeans, three hundred Seapoys, five hundred Horse and five hundred Morattas to protect the Fort and attend the Enemy as Occasion shall offer, whilst He with his Army pay a Visit to the Arcot Country, Changleput, Wondivash, but first to Chetteput, that He (Major Lawrence) now finds the Nabob so reasonable that he proposes to follow Him in a few days wherever he pleases, and in a Letter dated the next day he says "The Junction of the Morattas as I believe "them in our Interest for the present greatly alters Affairs in our Favour, I hope you "approve of the Scheme I sent last Night which is the best possible in mine and the "Nabob's Opinion, since the sitting down before strong Places and not carrying "them hurts his Interest more than any thing else, not to mention that Garrisoning Towns near Pondicherry would ruin the Army and incloses a Letter from the French Officers, desiring his Interposition in their Favour.

The President answer'd that he had already given our Sentiments of Peace and suppos'd the Nabob would get the best Terms he could and take care that they be such as he may be able to comply with for after Peace is once concluded it will be too late to urge the Mogul's, Gazedy Cawn's or Salabat Jung's Orders to the contrary

as any Reason for infringing it; That the Design against Chetteput is extremely agreeable; As to the French Officers he should be very glad to contribute to their Ease & if they will sign a Paper indemnifying us from any Breach of Treaty, and Mr Dupliex consents that they remain as the Nabob's Prisoners at Cuddalore he has no Objection but submits it to the Major to take what Measures he should think proper.

The abovemention'd Letter from the French Officers is now read (as enter'd in the Miscellanies being No 13) as also two Letters wrote by the President on that Occasion which are as follow Vizt

To Mr Dupliex Fort St George 22d September 1752.

Honble Sir

I have before me your Letter of the 17th Instant to Mr Pascaud in regard to your unfortunate Men that are Prisoners to Mahomed Ally, wherein you are pleas'd to express your Compassion for those Gentlemen; If Sir you really have this Compassion, I shall represent this Affair in so strong a Light that it must appear you are the Cause of their Misery, and that it is in your power to relieve them.

You are pleas'd to say you have always taken Care that the English Prisoners should be return'd; really Sir it has not been so; Our Officers wounded were not suffer'd to go on Parole, they were confin'd in Dungeons in a distant Country and ordered to mount the Ramparts to be shot at: 'Twas the Humanity of a Mahometan and not Mr Dupliex that prevented this Cruelty. The Success of Arms reliev'd them from their miserable Confinement. The Love of one's Country and Countrymen is natural and Injuries offer'd them are generally Resented. The Fate of War (ever precarious) gave us an Opportunity to retaliate this Barbarity; Mahomed Ally was successful, Syringham was taken and your Forces surrender'd Prisoners to him, sensible of the Ill Treatment they might receive, your Officers requested they might be remov'd to Cuddalore, they pledg'd their Honour that the Terms should be observ'd, by which you will perceive Sir that it was not founded on any Right we had to keep them but on their Request, though we could give You Instances in the late War of Allies doing it. To the Publick we appeal do you judge whether we have not return'd that Generosity peculiar to the English though strongly provok'd to a contrary Conduct, is the Return you made suitable to it, it certainly is if Honour prostituted, Breach of Treaty by most violent Measures an Affront offer'd to our Nation, our Men made Prisoners because we reliev'd yours and Officers appearing in the Field contrary to their Parole, what will the World judge of this, yet still Sir I have interceded with the Nabob that not the least Injury be offer'd to your People; and am ready to use my Interest for their Relief; Point out to me the Means and I will embrace them, so as they are not injurious to the Nabob or dishonourable to my Nation already affronted. Let me intreat you to consider these unfortunate Gentlemen in as serious a Manner as I do This is meant as a private Address to you and while I am writing it, cannot help feeling the Miseries the Province groans under; Tis in your Power to remove them; How melancholy a Reflection is it?

I have the Honour to be

Honble Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Thomas Saunders.

——FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1752.——

TO MR PASCAUD &C^A OFFICERS FORT S^T GEORGE 22^D SEPTEMBER 1752.

Gentlemen

Major Lawrence has wrote me your Situation which I very sincerely commiserate; I should be asham'd if I did not use my greatest Efforts to remove it; it is not my Fault, I heartily wish Mr Dupliex felt your Misfortunes as much as I do, it would not then be so put yourselves in my Case, a Nation and King insulted by an open Breach of Treaty by making our Men Prisoners because we reliev'd yours to support which an Act of Humanity is construed illegality and the Nabob greatly injured by Officers who had given their Parole appearing in the Field. Judge you, Gentlemen if this is Honourable: I wish you could point out to me how I can be of Service to you. I have desir'd Major Lawrence to use his Interest with the Nabob that the least Injury may not be offer'd you. I have wrote Mr Dupliex in the Strongest Terms that a Sense of your Misfortunes and Pity could dictate. I hope it will have Effect. The present Troubles I look upon as a general Misfortune and wish each would vie who should rival the other by Acts of Generosity and Humanity. With a perfect Regard for your Welfare I have the Honour to be

Gentlemen

Your most obedient Servant

THOMAS SAUNDERS.

Captain Clive advises that Saudet Bander surrender'd to the Nabob's Forces the 19th Instant on the following Terms, the Commanding Officer and Europeans to have Leave to go to Pondicherry with their Arms and Effects, the Topasses and Seapoys without Arms, and the Officer not to serve against the Nabob for one Year. That early the next Morning a Body of three hundred Men of which ten were Europeans with two Pieces of Cannon appear'd in Sight who were sent to the Relief of the Fort; that he had attack'd defeated them, and taken the Commanding Officer, eight Europeans and above half the Party Prisoners with the Cannon and Ammunition, and having left a Garrison in the Fort, he march'd from thence with the Nabob's and our Forces to Changleput where he arriv'd the 22^d & finds the Place very strong but that it is overlooked by a high Hill, where he propos'd to mount a Battery and was in hopes of reducing it in a little Time.

Captain Dalton writes that the King of Mysore still continues in his old Camp which he has fortify'd and built Houses there as if he had no Thoughts of removing though he seems extremely uneasy and apprehensive of being attack'd from the Fort. That Moraree continues to make great Protestations of Friendship, That the French Prisoners attempted lately to escape but the Nabob's People fir'd upon and secur'd them.

The President's Letters to Captain Clive are in Approbation of his Conduct and encouraging him in the present Enterprize against Changleput.

And those to Captain Dalton are only to enforce the Directions before given and desiring he will endeavour to convince the King of Mysore that we have no other Business with Trichenopoly than as it belongs to the Circar and that our Troops are there on that Account and not our own.

All which the Board approve.

The President acquaints the Board that the Nabob's Vakeel had communicated to him the particulars of an Agreement between his Master and the Morattas, whereby the former to engage the latter in his Service promises Moraree, three Countries under the Cuddapah Nabob, the Chout of Arcot, his Share of the Plunder

of Syringham and that the Outposts of Trichinopoly shall be deliver'd up to the King of Mysore; which he (the President) is of Opinion is but a temporary Remedy and must in the End involve the Nabob in fresh Troubles; for these Reasons; It is not to be imagin'd the Cuddapah Nabob will tamely submit to the Alienation of Districts subject to his Government, but on the contrary that He who is now a fast Friend will become a Declar'd Enemy. As to the Chout of Arcot it is already engag'd to Balaza Row, the Moratta Chief General who will certainly support his Claim and as he is now with Gazedy Cawn in march this way it may be of very dangerous Consequences to give him any Cause of Disgust. The little Confidence that can be place'd in Moraree (whose sole Aim is the Acquisition of Money) makes it very injudicious to give him at this Time any Share of the Plunder of Syringham, which consists of Cannon, Ammunition and Warlike Stores, as it will be a great Addition to his Strength should he at any time join the Enemy, though it can be of no Advantage while he continues on our Side. Tis of the utmost Consequence not to part with the Outposts at Trichinopoly; They are so situated as to command all the Avenues to the Fort and if yielded to the King of Mysore will put it in his power to intercept all Manner of Provisions and consequently reduce the Place to great Distress at least, if not to a Necessity of surrendering to him and that this is his view all his Actions and the Advices from thence evince. The Board having duly consider'd what is herein before offer'd concur in Opinion that such an Agreement with the Morattas would be extremely injudicious and the President is desir'd to acquaint Major Lawrence with our Sentiments and that we think it proper he should consult with the Nabob and if possible dissuade him from so indiscreet an Action but at the same time concert some better means of keeping the Morattas from going over to the Enemy and if possible prevail on them to return into their own Country.

Letter from Mr Dupliex dated 19th Instant (No. 24) read, also Draught of a Letter to him (No 25) approv'd both enter'd in the French Correspondence.

The President now communicates to the Board another Letter he has receiv'd from Major Lawrence, a Copy whereof follows.

TRIVEDY SEPTR 21ST 1752.

Sir

Lately I have receiv'd your Letter of the 17th Instant in answer to what I wrote desiring to quit a Service I could no longer be useful in on account of Illness and the Slights that had been offer'd me, it is but fit I should explain these Slights since you desire it and are at a Loss to know them tho' it is from you only they could possibly come.

When I left England, Mr Repington (whom I had never seen before but once) was recommended to me by Mr Mabbot & Mr Law, and as the Time would not permit for settling his Commission in London, they got the Company to order he should be provided for as I should appoint, this will appear by a Paper I deliver'd you and in consequence of which finding him useful on our March to Trichinopoly and being in great Want of Officers I appointed him Lieutenant of Grenadiers and wrote you word of it, did you ever tell me you disapprov'd of what I had done 'till four Months afterwards, or when you did, could you point out any Fault in this Officer. This is surely a Slight, it makes me cheap in the Eyes of those I am to command which renders my being of Service absolutely impossible, and while this continues my Authority which the Company gave me and you ought to support is lessen'd.

Has my Advice been follow'd or have I been consulted in Things which fall directly under my Province. Capt Pigou was taken from my Command and sent to Devy Cotta without my Knowledge; The Plan of Action I wrote you at my leaving the Army was neglected and another pursued in which I had no Hand. On my Arrival at Fort St George the greatest Obscurity in regard to our Affairs was put on

when I had a Right to know every thing that concern'd them ; how was I us'd in the particular of mentioning the Officers that went on the Detachment which was carried into Pondicherry ; How was I us'd in being order'd to Fort St David in an open Boat after I came out of a Fit of Sickness when there was a Ship in the Road, after I join'd the Army & wrote for positive Orders telling you it was impossible to follow the Advice of the Nabob you neither sent any nor left the Thing entirely to me without consulting him. All these are Slights and make me what I told you a Cypher ; My Officers know it and consequently will despise a Commander without Power which induc'd me to ask Leave to lay down the Service since I shou'd be asham'd of receiving the Company's Pay without doing any thing for it worth the while.

My Behaviour will evince that I have done my utmost to promote the Publick Interest nor could any Injuries divert me from it ; I stay'd in the Field though not able to sit up six Minutes together in hopes of bringing the Enemy to an Action which happily succeeded and terminated in our Favour. I overlook'd my ill Usage while there was any room to think the Enemy would attack us nor did I mention it till our Army was victorious.

I observe Sir you speak against private Disputes, this is not one, my Authority is lessen'd and I have the name without the Power, the Publick must be hurt. Have I ever fail'd in my Respect to you or have I ever neglected to obey your Orders, as I can't accuse myself of this I hope you will allow me to expect my Right, if every thing was made easy before I left Madras, fresh Cause of Complaint will always bring that to one's View which ought to have been forgotten without it.

You say there is no one fit to relieve me and yet refuse to take into the Service a Gentleman who only desir'd the same Rank he formerly bore in it, and who in my Opinion as little deserves to be disgusted as the Officers you mention, add to this he was one long before any of them, I am as much as you can be against superceding but really don't know how to call my Appointment by that Name.

The whole Thing rests here Sir. I am entirely dispos'd to serve the Company but don't chuse to do it by halves, confirm the Authority they have honour'd me with by the Sanction of yours and no one shall be more ready to do every thing that may be requir'd of me, remove my Cause of Complaint and it shall be wholly buried in Oblivion, but unless these are done I must stick to my former Request, however in the mean time I will not neglect the Publick Service and it will appear I have not.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most humble Servant

S. LAWRENCE.

Which Letter being read and consider'd, we are of Opinion that as the Slights Major Lawrence complains of are more in Opinion than reality, a particular Reply might tend rather to inflame than conciliate the Difference and therefore that it is most prudent not to take any Notice of it, especially as all he seems to require is that he be supported in the Authority the Honble Court of Directors have invested him with, which on all Occasions we are very ready to do.

THOS SAUNDERS

CHAS: BODDAM

HENRY POWNEY

AR WYNCH

JOHN SMITH.

FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE, OCTOBER 1752.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ$^{R.}$ GOV. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH.
Major Kinneer sick

The Military Correspondence read vizt

Five Letters from Major Lawrence. The first and second from Trivedy advising that the Nabob proposes to march in such a Manner as to be ready to return there if requir'd and yet be able to sustain his Forces the Arcot way in case of need, besides which he'll have it in his Power to raise Money and supply us with some. That although Innis Cawn has join'd the Nabob it is doubtful whether he can be depended upon and has refus'd to leave any of his People behind. The Third and fourth from Tritaloor where the the [*Sic*] Army arriv'd the 24th That the Morattas make frequent Excursions and bring off Cattle and Horses from the Enemy. That the Season is too far advanc'd to think of taking Waldour as the Enemy's whole Force is in it, not but it would be a glorious Attempt if the Weather permitted, but the being forc'd to raise the Siege would hurt the Nabob in the Eyes of the World and He is in expectation of getting at least five Lacks of Rupees at Wondivash and Chetteput, That We shall be able to determine in what Quarter they shall winter when He is at his Journey's End; That Fort St David is surely strong enough to protect itself and Bounds as they almost equal the Enemy in Europeans, besides he thinks if they can move, our Forces can do the same. The Fourth [*Sic*] is dated at Regla and mentions that the Enemy are mov'd from Waldour into Pondicherry Bounds which it is impossible to hinder the Morattas from plundering. **Monday The 2^{d}.**

Captain Clive's Letters contain a very particular Relation of his Proceedings before Changleput and in one of the 30th he advises that he believes another Days firing will make the Breach practicable, however that he had sent another Summons to the Commandant and incloses the Answer, the purport of which is, he offers to give up the Place but demands to march out with Arms, Baggage &c. which was refus'd and he should begin to fire again in the Morning and hopes it will produce better Terms.

Captain Dalton writes that having acquainted the King of Mysore it was expected he should be answerable for the Damages the Morattas may commit, he answer'd that Moraree had already plunder'd his Country of more than four Lack of Pagodas and that it was an absolute Impossibility to prevent Morattas from ravaging wherever they came. That Moraree has lately receiv'd Letters from Salabat Jung and Mr Bussy who commands the French Detachment there inviting them to join him, but he don't seem inclin'd to go and is dispatching a Vakeel to the former to acquaint him that he thinks his Offer of Pay insufficient; That a large Detachment is made from the King's Camp, which it is reported are going to Madura where most of the Polygars have revolted against the Mysore Government.

The President's Letters are also read and purport as follows

To Major Lawrence, in relation to the Nabob's Agreement with Moraree as particularly explain'd in the last Consultation and that as the Morattas cannot be hinder'd from plundering if they should come into these Parts they will not only ruin the whole Country but the Investment also, a great part of which comes from about Conjeveram, that it is therefore thought most adviseable to move no further than Wondivash and if successful there, to try Chetteput.

Several to Captain Clive in relation to the necessary Ammunition, Stores &c. for carrying on the Siege and particularly one dated yesterday wherein he directs that in case the Nabobs People should finish the Affair he send in the heavy Cannon and all belonging to them but the President acquaints the Board that recollecting Major Lawrence may probably have Occasion for them he wrote this morning to Captain

Clive that as there is Reason to suppose Changleput has by this time surrender'd, the first Thing to be done is to examine the Fort, repair the Breach and take an Account of the Stores, then leave a moderate Garrison there and return to Saudet Bander and regulate what is necessary and that it would be proper to write to Major Lawrence at Wondivash to know if he wants the heavy Cannon.

All which the Board approve and are of Opinion that as the Company's Affairs would suffer greatly should the Morattas plunder the Country hereabouts the Nabob should be prest not to advance further this way but after the Reduction of Wondivash turn his Arms against Chetteput.

The President acquaints the Board that having desir'd the Nabob's Vakeel to give his Opinion in relation to the Phirmaund lately receiv'd from Mr Dupliex, he had deliver'd the same in writing as follows.

The Copy of the Phirmaund said to be sent to Mons Dupliex by the Great Mogul being shewn to Sumpetrow and Hucoomet Roy in the presence of Antazy Punt, They perus'd and declar'd it to be forg'd for the following Reasons.

In the first Place they observ'd the Phirmaund was dated on the 11th of Moon Razel which is the 14th of May OS and it was the 5th of the same Moon which is the 8th of May, that Gazedey Cawn was ordered by his Majesty and set out the same Day from Delhi to command in Decan leaving his Son with his Majesty to act as Bucksee, so that it is impossible his Majesty should be so ill affected to Gazedy Cawn as to write the said Phirmaund to Dupliex in behalf of Salabat Jung &c. within six days of his setting out, nor was there any Reason for him to be offended against such an old, faithful & Experienc'd Minister as Gazedy Cawn. The Truth of the Case in their Opinion was this, that one Haphezedey Cawn, an Omrah was a Friend to Salabat Jung at his Majesty's Court, who was the Person that negotiated at first with his Majesty in his Behalf and this Haphezedy Cawn has wrote a Letter to Salabat Jung advising him that if he would send the remaining Part of the Peiscush to his Majesty, he would endeavour to recall Gazedey Cawn; when Salabat Jung receiv'd this Letter he in order to prevent People from going over to Gazedey Cawn, and to encourage and strengthen them to be firm in his Interest caus'd a Phirmaund Tent to be fix'd and within which he went with the usual Pomp and gave it out that the Mogul's Phirmaunds were sent him, the French Officers with him &c an Account of all which one Madana Singa from Golconda wrote to Sumpetrow fifteen days ago, telling him particularly that no Phirmaund was sent, either to Salabat Jung or the French, but Haphezedey Cawn's Letter only as aforesaid Sumpetrow &c. did therefore conclude that the aforesaid Copy was actually forg'd either at Salabat Jung's or at Pondicherry. Sumpetrow said by the Account he has Receiv'd that all or most of the Great Men deserted Salabat Jung and went over to Gazedey Cawn, so that Shawnavaz Cawn & Namatulla Cawn are still with him.

THOS SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

Monday the 9th

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR: PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH.

The Military Correspondence read vizt

Those from Major Lawrence contain to the following Effect; That he arriv'd with the Army before Wondivash the 30th Ultimo and the Nabob instantly made a Demand of seven Lacks and a half which is due to him, that if the Weather should

FORT S^T GEORGE, OCTOBER 1752.

hold up, after Business is settled there he proposes acting in the Neighbourhood, that there is a great Want of Officers which may be attended with very bad Consequences in case of coming to Action ; that he is inform'd the Enemy's whole Force is collected together at Waldour. That finding the Killedar of Wondivash very trifling they seiz'd an adjoining Pettah which the Morattas and Nabob's People set fire to and plunder'd, and after throwing a few Shells into the Fort, the Killedar propos'd giving the Nabob three Lacks which he agreed to. That the Morattas are extremely troublesome and do more harm than good though the Nabob does not think so and has made such an Agreement was [*Sic*] with them as must end in an open Rupture, but as he (the Major) does not think himself qualified to say all that might be urg'd on the Subject having never been made thoroughly acquainted with the Nature of the Country Government, he desires us to weigh the different Interest and give him orders ; That Captain Clive has wrote him he has the President's positive Orders to return with the heavy Cannon to Covelon which renders his besieging Chetteput impracticable if it was the most adviseable but he thinks the Season too far advanc'd, he therefore proposes to return to Trivedy and is of Opinion that if the Troops were to go into Fort S^t. David, it would save a great deal of Money and be as well both for dismissing the Morattas and being at hand to distress or oppose the Common Enemy.

Captain Clive writes that Changleput capitulated the 1st Instant ; and the 2^d, the Nabob took Possession, the Garrison consisted of ten Europeans, twenty Topasses and four hundred and thirty Seapoys, that the Fort is very strong being almost encompass'd by a Morass & surrounded by two Walls, the Ramparts of which are sixteen Feet thick, a wet Ditch fac'd with Stone sixty foot wide quite round the outward Fort and another half round the inward one, that the Repair of the Breach was immediately set about and having left a sufficient Garrison and regulated other Matters agreeable to order he was set out for Saudet Bander in his return hither that he had wrote to Major Lawrence about the heavy Cannon and receiv'd his Answer that Matters will be made up amicably at Wondivash, therefore concluding they will not be wanted has order'd them hither judging that if the Major should have occasion for any against Chetteput he may have two from Arcot which is much nearer than Changleput.

Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly advises that every thing continues in the same Situation there and in the Kings Camp, that he had lately receiv'd a Letter from the Nabob desiring him to give up the Outposts and that the King having Intelligence of it had offer'd him a Bribe to comply with it which he refus'd.

The President's Letters are also read vizt.

To Major Lawrence desiring that he will take care the Nabob discharge a part of his large Debt to the Company out of what he may get at Wondivash, that he is well inform'd Chetteput is weakly garrison'd and the Reduction of it would be of great Service to the Nabob's Affairs as it would secure a great Part of the Country to him, therefore desire he will go there if possible, and in regard to the Promotion of Officers he desires the Major will please to fill up the Vacancies according to their Rank, except by a Court of Enquiry of the Officers any one may be justly objected against.

As Major Lawrence seems to complain that he has not been inform'd of the Nature of the Country Government and hints as a Reason for not going to Chetteput that the heavy Cannon were order'd in, it is thought proper to write to him on that Subject and Draught of a Letter from the President is now read in which are the following Paragraphs.

" When the Morattas were on this Side the Calderoon and Moraree treating
" with the French you are well acquainted with the General Opinion and what pass'd
" between us in regard to Chettepau and the other Jemidar, 'tis beyond doubt the
" Nabob's Interest not to have him for an Enemy, how to prevent this and on friendly
" Terms the Ruin that attends his Troops is the Point in Question, and what the
" Nabob should consider of.

——FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, OCTOBER 1752.——

"I communicate to you every thing that comes to my Knowledge of the "Country Government, it cannot be expected you are perfectly acquainted with the "Different Interests, when you are at a Loss or dubious I shall always be ready to "give you my Opinion.

"In regard to the French I suppose they will try all Methods, the Success of "Salabat Jung, a Reinforcement from Europe or the Islands and gaining the Nabob's "Allies seem to be the Resources from whence they may hope to succeed; Should "Salabat Jung succeed it will be by their Means and consequently he will be in "their Interest; The Prince is the only Ship I hear that is expected from Europe, "She will bring Forces and they will undoubtedly again take the Field. The "Morattas are the Allies that possibly may be drawn off from the Nabob and this "requires his Care to prevent; The Question is whether he can do without them, if "he can, then whether he can think of means to induce them to return to their own "Country, but these means must be such as do not involve him in ruin.

"As to Gazedy Cawn I don't see how 'tis possible to assist from hence, the "Roads are not open nor can the Troops be spar'd.

"The Mysore King's Thoughts are on Trichinopoly, this the Nabob says is not "in his power to grant.

"The King of Tanjour protests Friendship, but is aw'd by an Army lying on "his Frontiers.

"The Foregoing with proper Measures for the Nabob to raise Money are "the Circumstances from whence we are to concert our Plan.

"The Question is whether it will be more advantagious for the Troops to go "into Winter Quarters or continue active.

"As to the former it will certainly save our Men and lessen our Expences, "but whether the Nabob will so easily collect his Revenues is a Doubt and will not "the Enemy make an Advantage of it.

"As to the latter the Success of Gazedy Cawn being doubtful and equally so "what Strength the French may have in February, 'tis imagin'd the greater Progress "the Nabob makes in subduing the Province, the more able he will be to oppose his "Enemies and get Money for the Support of his Army; I am told that Chetteput is "an easy Conquest and that if Waldour was reduc'd, Gingee must, having but very "little Provisions in it, though the first Thing to be done I think is to endeavour to "settle good and firm Terms with the Morattas.

"Captain Clive complain'd of Want of Health & desir'd to return which as he "had executed his Plan was granted, he had my orders to write you concerning the "heavy Cannon which he informs me he did, & that he sent it in when he found you "had no occasion for it.

"What I have wrote you I desire your Opinion of, when we will immediately "send you ours.

All which the Board approve.

Letter from Mr. Dupliex to the President dated the 4th Instant read as enter'd in the French Correspondence No 26.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS. BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

——*FORT St. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1752.*——

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.	GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM	HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH	JOHN SMITH

The Military Correspondence read. **Monday the 16th**

Major Lawrence writes that he had apply'd to the Nabob to discharge part of what he owes the Company but he complains that he is much in debt to his People and can't possibly spare more than forty thousand Rupees for which Buckenjee has given his Note. As to the Officers as it never was his Desire to set aside any one unless he thought him unfit for the Service, he desires the President will fill up the vacant Commissions. That the Army is arriv'd at Trivedy & the Weather begins to clear up a little, but the Season is too far advanc'd to think of attempting any thing with a prospect of Success as the Enemy keep close at home, he is therefore of Opinion that the Army should go into Quarters at Fort St. David as soon as possible, leaving a strong Garrison at Trivedy and set about making all the necessary Preparations for a vigorous Campaign as soon as the Monsoon is over. As to the Morattas, the Major observes that they are not to be restrain'd and continue their Disorders ; and that by Advices from Trichinopoly he is inform'd Moraree has demanded that Fort for the Mysore King and on being refus'd declared he would recal Innis Cawn and return to his own Country. The Nabob thinks they intend to possess themselves of Carriour and cut off all Provisions at which he seems greatly alarm'd as well as at the Thought of the Morattas leaving him, all which is a strong Confirmation that the Mysore Rajah will never quit his Pretensions to Trichinopoly unless we act differently & that since the Nabob is so irresolute and leaves Things at a Distance to Time & Chance when they require the greatest Attention we ourselves should convince this Head strong Daloway who puts his whole Trust and Confidence in Moraree that he pursues wrong Measures and he is of Opinion that a Moment should not be lost in ordering Captain Dalton to seize the Person of the King and if possible Moraree, while He, (the Major) makes free with Innis Cawn which would effectually spoil their Scheme and give us our own Terms, while at present they do us ten times more harm than if we were at open War with them, and he is confident that if the King of Tanjour and the Polygars will join us, the Nabob is more than a Match for the French, Mysoreans & Morattas, besides we should secure the Rent of the Trichinopoly Country, which is very considerable while now the Rajah lays a heavy Tax on every thing that goes into Town.

Captain Dalton advises that Moraree has inform'd Kiroudy Cawn he is now in the Service of the King of Mysore and must recall Innis Cawn, that a Vakeel is lately arriv'd in the Rajah's Camp from Mr. Dupliex and the Daloway now publickly talks of an open Rupture, that he is going to remove to Syringham Pagoda & says he finds he is a Dupe and is resolv'd to have either the Fort or the Money he has expended which is not less than a Crore of Rupees, Moraree talks in the same Strain, however Captain Dalton assures that should it come to an open Quarrel he shall be able to keep them in play without any Reinforcement.

The President's Letters are also read vizt

To Major Lawrence desiring him to tell the Nabob that he must find some means of defraying the Expences for we are incapable of bearing them, to insist on one Lack of Rupees out of what he got at Wondivash and acquaints him that the Nabob's Vakeel had communicated a Letter receiv'd from his Master wherein he says that Wondivash and Chetteput should be taken, that Winter Quarters will ruin his Affairs and that Waldour, Gingee, Wondivash, Chetteput and Velour must be reduc'd, he further adds that he has receiv'd Advice that Moortaz Ally Cawn Phousdar of Velour has negotiated with the Mysore King, Moraree & Dupliex and that if these join his Affairs will again be in Confusion, on all which the President

desires the Major's Opinion; As to the Morattas it is an Affair that requires the greatest Circumspection, they should if possible be kept from joining the Enemy; it were well if they would return to their own Country but that is to be doubted. That by a Ship arriv'd at Pondicherry, the French have receiv'd a Reinforcement, and as there seems to be something in Agitation at Trichinopoly, a few days may give an Insight into their Schemes and therefore if the Army remains a short Time at Trivedy it won't be improper.

Which the Board approve and considering that the Major & Nabob differ so widely in their Sentiments as to the Measures proper to be pursued at present, the former adviseing Winter Quarters and the latter urging the necessity of keeping the Field; we think it proper to suspend our Opinion on this Subject untill an Answer be receiv'd to the President's Letter wherein he desires the Major's Thoughts of the Nabob's Plan, and in the mean time we judge it will be necessary to add as an Enforcement of what the President has already wrote to Major Lawrence on the Subject of the Nabob's Debt that though he pleads Poverty, we are well assur'd he collects large Sums but takes no Thought to reimburse us nor will so long as we remain easy. It was agreed that he should constantly defray the Batta and extraordinary Charges, yet that has never been done, whatever Excuses he might before make, there can be no reasonable Plea now and it is intolerable that the more Places we take for him the more our Expences increase, therefore without trifling with us any longer, we must insist on his giving positive Orders that our Troops &c. at Trichinopoly, Arcot and the several Places we have put him in Possession of be constantly paid their Batta & the Seapoys their Batta and Wages with other Current Expences, that as a large Country is now in his Possession, we expect he will give us Orders on the Renters thereof for such Sums as may be thought equitable towards discharging his Debt, The President is desir'd to acquaint Major Lawrence herewith and that he strongly insist on the Nabob's Compliance.

Captain DeGingins having express'd a Desire of resigning the Service and returning to Europe for the Benefit of his Health. As we are in want of Officers, the Loss of so experienc'd a one in the present perplex'd Situation of Affairs will be very sensible. We therefore think it would not be improper to offer Capt. Gingins a Major's Brevet as an Inducement to him to continue with us some time longer as well as in Recompence of his faithfull Services; however the President is desir'd previously to take Major Lawrence's Opinion hereon.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS. BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR. WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH.

Monday The 23rd. The Military Correspondence read vizt

The most material Passages in Major Lawrence's Letters are to the following Effect, that in regard to the heavy Cannon he imagines there must have been some Mistake as Captain Clive wrote him he had positive Orders to send them in. As to the Question whether it were better to go into Winter Quarters or keep the Field he thinks the Army should march instantly into Quarters for the following Reasons, The Monsoon approaches which makes it unwarrantable to sit down before any Place. The Enemy have no Force in the Field capable of doing any Mischief and half the

Battalion are eat up with Distempers of one Kind or other and their being almost worn out and fatigued to Death with a long Campaign makes a little Rest and Refreshment absolutely necessary. All the military Stores want repairing and this is the properest Time for it; Chetteput will always fall if we keep a superiour Force in the Field and the attacking Waldour with the Men in Spirits at the opening of the Season will secure the Province Time enough, and in a subsequent Letter he says, "I have sent you my Opinion already about taking strong Places and going into Quarters; I can only add that if we pursue the Nabob's Schemes Ruin must attend it, when he's once set one a Thing he'll say or do anything to try for it though it's impossible it should succeed; As to the Affair of the Morattas he thinks it very intricate, that we should resolve on something ourselves and that if the Step he before propos'd were taken it would make them more tractable; In regard to the Officers as he shall have no Objection to the Rise of any one whatever, he desires we will fill up the Vacancies as we think proper. That agreeable to what was wrote him he had applied to the Nabob about the Money Affair, who assur'd him his Distresses were so great that it even hurt him to spare us the half Lack, but that if we will send him our Account he will give an order on the Killedar of Conjeveram for the Payment as he gets no Money from thence himself.

The President also lays before the Board another Letter from Major Lawrence, Copy whereof follows.

Sir

As you think me so little worth your Notice as to let my Letter of September the 21st lye unanswer'd I must beg you will send somebody to take the Command for I cannot serve under any one that has so low an Opinion of me, and instead of supporting you have taken away the Authority of my Commission which puts it quite out of my Power to do the Company any Service, it is necessary to determine soon on the Plan of Operations or the going into Quarters as the Thing is of the utmost Consequence to the Service, I have already given my Opinion and am

Sir

Trividy — Your humble Servant

October the 18th 1752. — S. Lawrence

To the Honble Thomas Saunders.

Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly writes that the Rajah has declared he shall stay but a few days at Syringham and then join the Nabob, but it is pretty certain he has no such Intention for he at the same time complains that he has been us'd very ill and wishes we would stand neuter and let him and the Nabob decide Matters; besides a very treacherous Design to murder him (Dalton) has been discover'd by one of the Killedars Jemidars, whom a Bramin from the Rajah had attempted to corrupt, upon which some of the Chief Conspirators were seiz'd and are to be publickly shot in Terrorem.

The present intricate Situation of the Nabob's Affairs being well weigh'd and consider'd and the several good and bad Consequences that may probably attend going into Winter Quarters or keeping the Field, and a Letter from Richard Starke Esqr being read wherein he advises the latter, upon the whole we are also of the same opinion for the several Reasons contain'd in our Letter to Major Lawrence, Draught whereof is now read and approv'd and is as follows.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1752.*——

To Stringer Lawrence Esq

Sir

The President has receiv'd your Letters N° 35. 36. 37. 38. We have taken into Consideration what you wrote us concerning Winter Quarters, weigh'd the Advantages and Disadvantages attending it and are of opinion that if to be effected keeping the Field will be the measure that will most facilitate the Settling the Province, it's certain some Difficulties will arise, but as the Troops were abroad all the last Monsoon it encourages us in the Attempt this ; The Reasons that have guided us in this determination are, that the Enemy are now weak and not able to make any considerable Opposition, that should we go into Winter Quarters 'till January they will possibly receive further Reinforcements & concert new Schemes which will render that a Work of Difficulty which now is not so, this we are strongly inclin'd to believe as we are inform'd that the Velour Phousdar who has a large Fort and is the most powerful Officer in the Government is now raising Troops and negotiating with Chunda's Allies, the Mysorean & Moratto ; Such a combin'd Force would occasion infinite Trouble if not plunge the Nabob's Affairs into an intricate Situation, they seem to be diffident of Chunda's Allies, but Time and Perswasion may overcome it, The Mysore King has not quitted his Pretensions to Trichinopoly, owed by the late Successes he avoids an open Rupture, but his several Attempts clearly expose to view his Intentions ; The Moratta receives pay both from Mysore King and Nabob, the latter writes he gives him seven thousand Rupees a day, his own Troops must be paid our Arrears are very considerable and daily increasing ; he seems to have adopted a too refin'd Policy (his Friends will be so, his Enemies enhance his Attention those he caresses) The Expence is astonishing, which way to be defray'd, what Resource to be found, supposing the Army goes into Winter Quarters, the Nabob's Troops must be paid, the Morattas satisfyed, we shall have a saving in the Batta but the Number of Seapoys still continue in pay, the Detachments at Trichinopoly Arcot &c. must have Pay and Batta, as sure as the Nabob's Army retires every Polygar of the Enemy's Party will have it in his Power to destroy the Country, and prevent the Rents from being collected. The Nabob writes that from Chetteput & Gingee they have detach'd a Party who are doing great Mischief about Ternamaly, all these are so many Inducements that speak for taking the Field.

In regard to Winter Quarters certainly the greatest Tenderness and Care is due to our People, Could not those that are sick be replac'd from St David, the Difficulty appears to be whether the Season will permit of being abroad, and whether the Rivers and Roads will not impede the Carriage of Stores &c, it's probable the different Villages will afford sufficient Cover for the Men. We must very particularly recommend this Affair to You being assur'd of your utmost Efforts to put it in Execution.

As it will take up some Days in repairing and replacing Stores &c. it won't be amiss to put the Nabob in mind of his Debt and to demand Orders on the several Amuldars for the Payment of it.

Chetteput, Waldour, Gingee and Velour are the Places in view, as you are on the Spot we must desire after considering the Situation of Chunda's Allies, Fort St David and Trivedy, you will write us the Plan you intend to pursue

We have no Officer to relieve you at present, when we have it shall be done.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Serv^ts.

Fort St George

25th October 1752

Thoma^s Saunders

Charles Boddam

Henry Powney

Alexander Wynch

John Smith.

O. S. LIBRARY MADRAS.

——*FORT St. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1752.*——

The President also lays before the Board Draught of a Letter to Major Lawrence in answer to his of the 18th herein before enter'd which is approv'd, Copy whereof follows

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr.,

Sir

I have receiv'd your Letter of the 18th October, referring to one of the 21st September. When you first wrote me on this Subject I told you You should be redress'd in any thing that was judg'd wrong and I think I have a Right to claim so much Confidence as to be believ'd, What is related in that of the 21st September is little more than what you express'd yourself satisfy'd ; We consult you and advise you of what occurs, your Voice becomes a Part of our General Councils, Our Records manifest it; there has been no Plan alter'd, what agreed upon is the Plan now to be executed ; as I am perswaded a General Good Harmony subsists in a Private Capacity, I could wish it was equally so in a publick one and can attribute it to nothing else but not rightly understanding each other, the Company's Orders are the Rule for our Conduct and the Opinion of the Majority of the Council, of which you are one, Your Commission is Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in India to obey such Orders as you receive from the Governour &c. Council, This is extremely plain and I shall be oblig'd to you to point out where in infring'd. Your Letters are always communicated to the Gentn and my Reply has been with their Concurrence, I have try'd all Measures to get Paupah Braminy to go to you, but to no Effect. I am now endeavouring to find another.

I am

Fort St George — Sir

25th October 1752 — Your most Obedient Servant

Thomas Saunders.

Resolved that as Major Lawrence declines giving his opinion in regard to the Promotion of Officers, the several Vacancies be fill'd by those next in Rank.

General Letters from Mr Robert Westgarth at Syrian, and Mr Thomas Taylor on board the Porto Bello at Sea, read as follows. vizt

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr

President & Governour &ca Council of

Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Duplicate of the 18th June, wherein you are pleas'd to appoint me Resident for the Honble Company's Affairs in Pegu, and you may depend upon my utmost Diligence to promote the Interest of my Honble Employers.

You Inform me of a Letter and Present for the King and his Brother on the Porto Bello which is not yet come to my Hands, without which I can do nothing in regard to the reestablishing this Factory and so soon as I receive it (which I daily expect) I shall particularly observe what you write me relating thereto.

I have heard of Mr Thomas Taylor's safe Arrival at the little Negrais whereon I immediately dispatch'd a Boat to inform him of the Situation of this Place and how to behave to the Country People, advising him of the City of Ava with the Birmah King and all his Dominions being now fallen into the Hands of the King of Pegu, at the same time desiring him to dispatch the Porto Bello immediately to me, who is not yet arriv'd ; I receiv'd about eight days ago, by one of the Country Govr who

had been with Mr Taylor a Letter inclosing a Report to the King of Pegu of what Force he has brought with him, He tells me they were all well and shall soon be in a good Posture of Defence, I waited on the King with it & told him that the two Sloops belong'd to the Company, by whose orders they were to settle on that Island, he said it never was customary for any body to live there, it being in the Woods, and they could get no Merchandize & he can't think the meaning of their going into so remote a Place, I told him they were not come there with any Intention to hurt or molest him but to serve him in case he should want their Assistance, and that being a good Place for the Company's large Ships to lye at in the Monsoon, and that was one of the Chief Reasons for going there, and I desir'd him to give orders to his People near them to assist them with any thing they might want, he said it was very well and he was glad they were his Friends Ships, and he wants much to see the Letter and Present and promises great Things when he receives them it would be well if you would write him to assist your People at the Negrais & to permit a free Trade between your People and his, which I am afraid at present he will think much to do

I have strove much ever since the French came here to frustrate their Schemes, which in some measure have taken Effect, and I hope ere long (though I must work with Caution) to have them quite rooted out of this Place, they on their part have been endeavouring secretly to turn me and all the English out of the Country and have laid the Company out to the King in a most miserable Condition, which the King's Brother, Upper Rajah, told me of a few days ago, and they would never consent to the Proposals made them by the French the English were a People they had known long and should always have Liberty in their Country, it would swell this to too great a Length to relate the Particulars past between us, so shall only tell You that I think they seemingly have a true Regard for the English Interest.

I think long to see the Porto Bello arrive and if She don't come soon I am afraid I shan't be able to get her repair'd with the Expedition I could desire and I hope you have sent over Treasure for that Purpose & to compleat the Timber and Plank indented for.

I shall take care to send you by all Opportunities whatever Advices I may receive from Mr. Taylor with what other Occurrences happen with me, and as the Reestablishment of this Factory will be attended with Expence I hope by the first Conveyance you will send me Supplies for that purpose and what Treasure you send, let it be Dollars if procurable; You will let the Tradesmen & Lascars indented for be Good Men, as they will be of great Service to carrying on your Business here and if you require any thing of greater Consequence, please to send over more Men.

Upper Rajah desires you will please to send him four Coffree Boys, about ten or twelve years old for which he will be much oblig'd to You. I remain with great Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Syrian
1st September 1752

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
ROBT. WESTGARTH

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS ESQR
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA COUNCIL AT
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I just embrace this Opportunity to inform you that the Honble Company's Sloops Porto Bello and Fortune arriv'd safe here yesterday from the Negrais with Mr. Thomas Taylor and his People which has happen'd extremely well, as the King is very desirous to see them, and has sent Orders for them both to repair here on the Receipt of it.

——*FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, OCTOBER 1752.*——

We are now preparing to wait on the King with his Letter and Present which on account of Mr. Taylor's Coming here we must be oblig'd to enlarge and by the King's Letter to me two days ago I don't doubt of our Success, both of his granting the Negrais or any thing that may be fit for our Purpose.

So soon as our Business is done with the King we propose dispatching the Sloop Fortune to you, to inform you of our Proceedings.

I am much pleas'd at Mr. Taylor's Arrival before the King's Letter reach'd him, which will be of Service both to his Affairs and mine and I doubt not but he has given you his Reasons for leaving that Place.

I must again request you will supply me with Money by the first Conveyance that offers as your Affairs here will require a much larger Sum than is sent on the Porto Bello, as her People must be paid here and many other Expences and it will be well on the Receipt of the Company's Ground to fence it in and put it in proper Order. Be pleas'd to send your Letters to the King in English, sending Copies of them. I remain with great Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

Syrian — Humble Servant

16th. September 1752 — ROBT. WESTGARTH

P.S.—Neither Mr. Taylor nor I have Company's Seals, they being very necessary, so be pleas'd to send them.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

PRESIDENT &CA. COUNCIL OF

FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir Sirs

This is to advise you I arriv'd at the Negrais the 29th June last and have taken a Plan of the Place which I have now inclos'd.

I find the King of Pegu lays Claim to the little Negrais of which I have great Reason to be convinc'd, he having a Town on the great Negrais as far up as a Boat can go in one Tide and by the Decorum kept amongst them I have great Reason to think is as well govern'd as any Place the King has in his Dominions, there is many Inhabitants on the Great Negrais and Adjacent Islands; to wit Burmahs, Peguers & Carryans and by what these People tell me this Place is as valuable as any the King of Pegu has, it produces Wax, Teeth, Wood Oyl, Dammer, Teak Wood and some Iron.

Notwithstanding I us'd all the Officers with the greatest Respect and made them very handsome Presents and sent Presents to the Governour and Council of the Town and made all the Protestations I could of my good Intentions, I could not make them believe but that I was come to plunder the Country because I could not shew Authority from the King of Pegu, they in a short time made a Town sufficient to lodge four hundred Men which they had on the Great Negrais and three hundred on Porean Island and my Linguister inform'd me three hundred more Men was expected daily (this he got by the Help of some Rupees) they very plainly told me I must take Care of myself if the King should be displeas'd at our Proceedings and that I must answer for what I had done and that if the King should give Orders we should have as many Houses as we wanted and every thing else we could desire, In a very short time I found myself in a bad Posture of Defence for want of Men, having six Europeans (one since dead & three more in a very bad way) two Coffrees and ten Lascars sick of the Fever occasion'd by the excessive Rain which has been so severe that our Tents are quite useless; But if I had been strong enough to keep my Ground I believe

it would have been very imprudent of me to fire a Shot at the King of Pegu's People as it would be a means of his using us as his Enemies, I therefore was resolv'd to embark my Stores &c. and go to Pegu and endeavour to get the King's Liberty myself and if I find it necessary to make any more Presents I propose giving him some of our Guns and Ammunition if I can't get any thing else that is Proper there; I hope you will excuse the Shortness of this as we are at Sea, and if any Opportunity offers will write more larger from Syrian, after I have been with the King will send the Sloop Fortune (if the Weather permits) with Advices.

I must beg the Favour you will send me some Money the first Opportunity for if the King gives us Liberty to settle I shall want Money to buy materials for Houses and other Necessaries & for the Soldiers Pay for they have been very troublesome all though they could not spend it, and I must beg you will give me Orders how I am to pay them.

Your Honours speedy Advice for my further Proceedings will be very acceptable to

Honble Sir & Sirs

Sloop Porto Bello
at Sea
14th Septr 1752 NS.

Your Honours, most Obedient
& most humble Servant
THOMAS TAYLOR

Agreed that a Supply of ten thousand Rupees for Mr Westgarth & ten thousand for Mr. Taylor be sent them on the Neptune Snow bound to Pegu and that it be recommended to them to cultivate a Friendship with the King and Draughts of Letters to them are now read and approv'd, Copies whereof follow

To MR. THOMAS TAYLOR

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 14th September and have one of a later Date from Mr. Robert Westgarth advising that you were preparing for an Audience of the King who he says is well inclin'd to the English and will grant your Request and that he shall immediately dispatch the Fortune Sloop with Advices, so that we can only tell You that we approve the Steps you have taken and now send you Arcot Rupees ten thousand (10000) as ℔ Invoice and Bill of Loading inclos'd.

We could wish you had been a little more accurate in your Soundings which will be very necessary

We are
Sir

Fort St George
29th October 1752

Your affectionate Friends
THOMAS SANDERS
CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

——FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.——

To MR. ROBERT WESTGARTH

RESIDENT AT PEGU.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 1st & 16th. September.

We are glad to observe the King is so inclinable to promote our Affairs, as we hourly expect the Fortune Sloop with Advices from you, shall only now recommend to you to improve this amicable Disposition of his Majesty and assist Mr. Thomas Taylor in his Affairs.

The Residency at Pegu never put the Company to any Expence; as it has been dropp'd for some time, possibly a few trifling Presents & Charges may be necessary, in this be as frugal as possible, you must be well acquainted with the Method Mr. Kelsal and Smart conducted the Factory, do you do the same, that you may not be in want of any thing we have comply'd as far as we could with your Indent and send you ten thousand (10000) Rupees as ℔ Invoice and Bill of Lading inclos'd; as an Opportunity offers, transmit your Accounts. We are

Sir

Fort St. George

29th. October 1752

Your affectionate Friends

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

As we are inform'd Mr. Dupliex has sent some Military to Metchlepatam and Mr. Pigot in a Letter to the President having requested a Reinforcement to his Garrison we are of opinion that it is proper to comply therewith, but that for the Present only a Serjeant and eight Men be sent there on the Vizagapatam Snow as She will probably have a long Passage.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH

Fryday the 3d.

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Major Lawrence wherein he advises that Murtaz Ally Cawn's People were in possession of Trinomaly and that the Nabob had sent a Party to drive them away. As to Capt Gingins he is of Opinion it will be of great Advantage to the Company to give him a Major's Brevet.

General Letters from Major Lawrence read and are as follows.

——*FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.*——

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq$^{R.}$ Trivady October 28$^{TH.}$ 1752.

President & Governour &c$^{A.}$ Council of

Fort S^{T} George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I am favour'd with your Letter of the 25th October wherein you acknowledge that Govr Saunders has receiv'd mine N°. 35. 36. 37 & 38 and after mentioning your Opinion in regard to the Plan we should pursue, ask mine. I wish you would have Recourse to N°. 32 & 33 where I have given it very clearly and still conceive it will be of the greatest Advantage for the Company's Interest.

I wrote you this Morning desiring to lay down the Service as I can never be perswaded to pursue a Plan that in my Conscience I think hurtful to my Honble Masters. I am ready to give my Reasons for this Step whenever you think proper, in the mean time would recommend the Reading of all Letters that have pass'd between the Governour and me which without doubt are ready for the perusal of every one of the Council, as he acquainted me writing to him would be sufficient & that my Letters are always communicated to you and his Replies are with your Concurrence.

I must beg You'll for the future send your Orders to Captain Clark as I intend to resign the Command to him being well convinc'd my staying with the Army in our present Situation will be of no manner of Service.

I have told the Governour the Nabob is ready to give Orders on his Killedars for discharging his Debt to the Company as soon as the Accounts are sent him. I am with the greatest Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and

most Humble servant.

S. Lawrence.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq^{R} Trivady Oct$^{R.}$ 28$^{TH.}$ 1752.

President & Governour &c$^{A.}$ Council of

Fort S^{T} George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have wrote several Letters to Governour Saunders giving it as my Opinion that instead of remaining idle here at a great Expence we ought to march into Fort St David as we shall be equally near to oppose the Enemy if they attempt any thing in the Approaching Monsoon and be at hand to assist in making Preparations for the Opening of the Campaign. But as I have had the Misfortune to find my Advice neglected in every particular it renders me quite unable to act any longer, so for fear of hurting the Service of our Honourable Masters which I have the utmost Zeal to promote, I must beg Leave to lay down my Employment 'till their Pleasure shall be known whom I have acquainted with my Reasons for it. I am with the greatest Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Your most Obedient and most

humble servant

S. Lawrence.

——*FORT St. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.*——

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr

President & Governour &ca. Council of

Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I waited on the Nabob this Morning and press'd him for Money which I find we are in great want of; He says he has very little and that goes to pay his own Troops however he'll do what he can. I must still give it as my humble Opinion that we had better go into Fort St. David than continue here in a State of Inactivity, if it was only on account of the Batta which would save us I believe near eighty thousand Rupees a month.

The Nabob is suspicious that a Peace may be made up between Gazedey Cawn and Salabat Jung to the Advantage of the French as we have sent no Supplies. I wish sincerely we had somebody on the Spot to send us constant News from the Northward and strengthen our Interest.

The Vakeel from Karical is said to have carried four Lacks of Rupees with him as a Present to Moraree and it seems Dupliex promises two more on his joining their Forces at Villenour, however the Nabob thinks this won't be done till the Moratta sees what Turn Affairs will take to the Northward. I must beg you'll fall on some Method of supplying Captain Dalton with Money and please to give him Leave to make some Examples, Otherwise it's not unreasonable to imagine that the Town will be lost and our People murdered. I have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

and most humble Servant

S. Lawrence.

P.S. Tis with great Concern I hear of the Indisposition of Gov. Saunders. I hope he will soon recover.

S.L.

As the Reasons on which we grounded our Opinion that it would be more advantagious for the Troops to keep the Field than go into Winter Quarters subsist without any Alteration, our Sentiments in this Respect are still the same and it is with Concern we observe that Major Lawrence not only differs from us but takes occasion from thence to charge us with neglecting his Advice in every particular, therefore persists in his Resolution of resigning the Service, and indeed we might justly accuse ourselves of neglect were we lightly to pass over this unhappy Dissention without observing that we are not conscious of having on any occasion whatever slighted or neglected the Major's Opinions, on the contrary we have not only paid that Regard which is due to them as coming from a Member of this Board, but we have consider'd them too as the Sentiments of a Gentleman whose Military Capacity we have a high Opinion of, and whom our Honble Masters have thought proper to invest with the Chief Command of their Forces in India, subject nevertheless to the Orders of the President and Council, and as Members of the Council, we conceive it is our indispensable Duty to deliver our real Sentiments of all Matters that come before us; we have done so in the present Affair and we think Major Lawrence has so much the less Reason to be disgusted, as our Opinion has not been precipitate but the Result of calm and repeated Deliberation (which will appear by the Letters that have pass'd on this Subject) and therefore is the less likely to have flow'd from any other motive than that of promoting the Interest of our Honble

Employers. Our Concern on this Occasion is aggravated by the Reflection that we have lately lost an able Commander by the Decease of Major Kinneer and Captain deGingins Desiring to resign the Service will probably deprive us of another, from all which the Company's Affairs may suffer greatly, it is Agreed however that a Major's Brevet be offer'd Captain DeGingins and that we endeavour to prevail on him to lay aside for the present his Intentions of returning to Europe, That a Letter be wrote to Major Lawrence in answer to those above enter'd agreeable to our former Sentiments on this Occasion and desiring his Reasons (as he offers to give them) for declining the Command.

Captain Dalton's Letters are also produc'd and read advising that a Vakeel from Pondicherry is arriv'd in the Mysore Camp with the following Proposal, that Mr Dupliex to engage the Morattas in his Service offers to pay directly into the hands of Innis Cawn, three Lack of Rupees, three more some time hence and one Lack & a half ℔ month regularly for the Subsistence of the Army and that it is strongly reported those Terms are accepted; That the Raja remains at Syringham and is laying up prodigious Quantities of Provisions, that he has press'd with great Warmth to have his Brother Gopaul Rauze deliver'd up which Kiroudy Cawn evades. That the Raja having receiv'd News of the King of Tanjour's Warlike Preparations and his Design of detaching a Party to assist the Moravar Polygar against the Mysoreans in the Trinavelly Countries was much enrag'd, and desir'd Moraree to send some Horse to burn the Tanjour Country, but he very ingenuously told him that he was unable at present having many Detachments abroad, besides that Monagee has taken the precaution to have a sufficient Force on the Tanjour Frontiers to defend them from Incursions.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.	GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM.	HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH.	JOHN SMITH.

The Camp Correspondence read.

Monday the 6th, Captain Dalton writes that there are good Grounds to believe the French and Morattas have concluded an Agreement, the Rajah who continues at Syringham has dispatch'd Moraree with his Force to join Innis Cawn and proceed to the French, to cover this Design the Daloway sent for his (Dalton's) Vakeel and told him Moraree ask'd such extravagant Wages that he could not afford to keep him any longer and had sent him about his Business, that he could not say whether he intended to join the French, go to Salabad Jung or return to his own Country; That hereupon he and the Nabob's Officers had agreed to send for Monagee from Tanjour to come to their Assistance which Reinforcement will enable them to maintain a Superiority in those Parts; Requesting that in cases of Emergency he may be permitted to act to the best of his own judgment without waiting for particular Orders.

Captain Saunderson at Arcot advises that two of the French Officers and their Doctor had made their Escape upon which all the other Prisoners were immediately put in Irons.

The President's Letters are also laid before the Board containing some Directions to the several Officers in Garrison which are approv'd as is also a Letter intended to be sent Captain Dalton, directing him in regard to such Criminals as concern

——FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.——

his own Command to act according to the Articles of War; with Respect to others, they fall under the Management of the Nabob's Officers, however the necessity of inflicting proper Punishment should be enforc'd to him. That as to the Mysoreans he may upon Emergencies act according to his own Discretion remembering the Trust repos'd in him but must not be the Aggressor.

Letter to Major Lawrence agreeable to the Resolution of last Consultation is now read, approv'd and sign'd; Copy whereof follows vizt.

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr.

Sir

We wrote you under Date the 25th Ulto. our Sentiments of the Nabob's Affairs and the Plan for Operations, since which we have receiv'd your Letter of the 28th Ulto. with one of the same Date desiring to lay down the Service 'till our Honble Masters Pleasure be known; in the former you desire us to direct our Orders to Captain Clarke and tell us you are ready to give us your Reasons for taking this Step, which we desire you will do; The President in Consultation lays before us the Camp Correspondence; Since this we have receiv'd your Letter of the 29th, setting forth your fruitless Application to the Nabob for Money, the Apprehensions of Gazedy Cawn's coming to an Accommodation with Salabat Jung to the Advantage of the French, and the usefulness of Advice from thence, the French Vakeel going to Moraree and your Opinion that it will be better to go into Winter Quarters, as it may probably be a saving of eighty thousand Rupees ℔ Month to the Company. It possibly may have slipt your Memory in our Letter of the 17th. September we acquaint you with our Sentiments as to Gazedey Cawn and the President in the Correspondence writes you of his applying to the Gov. &ca. Council of Bombay, as Salabat Jung's Troops being at Golcondah render a Correspondence this way impracticable; in the Camp Letters you were acquainted with the Storm gathering by the Junction of the Phousdar of Velour, the Moratta and the French, in our Letter to you we mention it and indeed it is the strongest Motive that induces us to lose no Time; Captain Dalton's Letters which the President has order'd always to be open'd for your Perusal, mentions the French Vakeel from Karical going to the Moratta. We imagine your Calculation of saving is very imperfect and when you consider the short Time the Troops would remain in Winter Quarters and that we must then assist the Nabob we conclude that the best way to clear his Debt is to put it in his Power to do it, which must be by securing the Country to him, to which the Reduction of Chetteput will greatly contribute and are therefore still of Opinion that if the Weather and Roads will permit, keeping the Field will be the most effectual Means. The President has long since given Captain Dalton the Liberty of drawing on us as we can get no Bills from hence, we shall try what we can do by way of Tanjour.

We are

Fort St. George — Sir

6th November 1752. — Your most obedient Servts

Thomas Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Powney
Alexander Wynch
John Smith

——FORT St. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.——

The President acquaints the Board that the Mysore Vakeel had apply'd to him for the Dalloway's Share of the Plunder of Wolconda, on account of which he had receiv'd only two thousand (2,000) Rupees. As he is already greatly disgusted and with holding what he now demands may give him fresh Cause of Complaint which it is our Interest to avoid; Agreed that Captn Clive who has had the Distribution of the Plunder, deliver the Raja's Proportion to whom he shall appoint

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS. BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR: GOVR: PRESIDENT.
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH.

Monday the 13th

The Military Correspondence read,

Captain Dalton writes that the French Vakeel has left the Mysore Camp with a grand Retinue, tis reported he is gone to settle some Preliminaries that could not be adjusted without his Masters further Assent, as Moraree demands more Money, his Camp is however passing the Calderoon. That He (Dalton) is inform'd by his Spies the Daloway has lately receiv'd a Letter from his Brother advising him to return to his own Country, but he declares he is determin'd to die rather than not return with Honour, that he will give up his Pretensions to the Fort if the Nabob will repay him the Money he has expended, this the latter thinks unreasonable as he requires to be paid for the Expence of an Army which he always keeps on foot in his own Country in peace or War. The Raja however seems to be preparing to move, 'tis said to Carriour, and has already sent part of his Baggage that way.

Ensign Paccard who commands at Changleput advises that some Parties of the Enemy's Seapoys have appear'd thereabouts and taken several Villages and that he apprehends they have some Design to attack a neighbouring Fort.

The President's Letters are also read vizt.

One to Major Lawrence enclosing a Letter receiv'd from the Nabob wherein he mentions that the French have Agreed to give Moraree five Lack, and 5000 Rupees a day to join them, that the Daloway is inclin'd to take the same Part, but says nothing of any Measures to prevent it, and acquaints him that the Veloor Phousdar has sent a Vakeel here to propose Terms of Accommodation with the Nabob, tho' it is pretty certain the French have sent three Field Pieces and Ammunition to Vellour; Desiring the Majors Opinion whether Changleput would not be the properest Place for the Nabob's Prisoners.

The Board having debated on the Subject of the Accommodation propos'd by the Vellour Phousdar are of Opinion that although there is great Reason to apprehend he is not sincere in his Overtures having lately receiv'd Supplies from the French yet if reasonable Means can be found to bring him over to the Nabob's Interest it will be doing him a Signal Service as he has yet many Enemies in the Country.

The President acquaints the Board that Abdul Vahab Cawn the Nabob's Brother is come this way to settle and collect the Revenues of the Country hereabouts and has express'd an Inclination of coming hither, but that he (the President) is of Opinion it had better be avoided lest it should be imagin'd his Business here is to consult

with, and receive our Orders about the Revenues and in that Case, if the Nabob hereafter should have any Disputes with the Government about the Rents, he may possibly alledge they were under our Management and thereby involve Us in Disputes, in which Opinion the Board concur.

THOs. SAUNDERS.
CHAs BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT.
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH.

Wednesday the 15th.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA COUNCIL OF

FORT St. GEORGE. Trivedy Nov. 9th. 1752.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

I have not been favour'd with any Letters from you since the 25th. October, though I have been for some time in daily hopes of your Determination, whether the Army is to continue in the Field or to go into Winter Quarters. I am sorry to tell you the Affair grows now too serious to be neglected as all the Evils I foretold are come to pass, and God knows what our Troops will suffer before you can reply to this.

The Morattas have left us and are gone to join the French ; what vast Sums have they drawn from the Nabob for doing nothing which the coming to an Explanation sooner would have sav'd. I advis'd to this but it was neglected. A most dreaful Storm of Wind and Rain which happen'd the Night before last has laid the Country under Water, wash'd away great Part of our Provisions, and destroyed a good deal of our Ammunition ; The Poor Men are mostly seiz'd with Agues and Fluxes, the natural Consequences of this inclement Season and I greatly fear we sha'nt have a Man able to take the Field when there's an Opportunity of doing any thing ; I wrote Governour Saunders Word that it was impossible to sit down before any Place with a Prospect of Success and that I could not undertake it, what then is the Difference between being active at Fort St. David or Trivedy, The Enemy won't seek us at either Place, we can't follow them for fear of being hemm'd in amongst Rivers & large Guts common all over the Country which would end in our Destruction or at least Disgrace by being forc'd to leave our Carriages and Cannon behind us. I don't know what the Gentlemen of Fort St George may think of our Situation, but it's the Opinion of every Body here who ought to know that nothing can be done by keeping the Field. The Nabob himself is at last convinc'd of it & wishes heartily he had taken my Advice a month ago. He wants me to march directly to St. David and says he'll write to Mr. Saunders for that Purpose. He has not a Penny of Money to advance us the Morattas have so drain'd him ; there's no Rice in his Buzzar or Provisions in his Camp and nothing but Famine and Destruction stares us in the Face. The Morattas whom I was forbid to attack have carried all the Cattle in the

——FORT St. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.——

Country away with them and we have no Resource now but Fort St. David from whence I have not been able to procure a single Bullock. The Army has but one Days Provisions left, so that if the Waters continue as high as they are, and it looks very likely, we must starve. Let me beseech you Gentlemen to take this Affair into your most serious Consideration. What hurt will our Honble Masters sustain if we have no Men able to take the Field when they can be active for the Sake of keeping them out when they are not so. It is our Duty to have a tender Care of the Soldiers entrusted to us. Let us not sacrifice them when they can do no Service. I (as their Commander) declare they can do no Service in offending the Enemy and have declar'd it would be Madness to undertake a Siege during the Monsoon. You Gentlemen know I was so greatly averse to the Staying here, being of Opinion it would be hurtful to our Honble Masters, that I desir'd to quit the Service rather than have a hand in it. I still continue to do my Duty in remonstrating the Evils that must ensue and hope you'll provide a speedy Remedy for it.

I must remark that our Case is quite different from that of the Troops at Trichinopoly. They were encamp'd under the Walls of the Town they were to defend. Some Risque was then necessary but I see none now, unless you are afraid of losing Trivedy so near St. David, which I should not be in the least Pain for. I have the Honour to be with the Greatest Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient Servant

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

The Board having consider'd the Contents of the foregoing Letter, they are of Opinion as Major Lawrence so strenuously recommends the Army's removing to Fort St David and positively declares nothing can be undertaken at this Season, that we signify our Consent to him although we are still convinc'd if it were possible for the Troops to keep the Field it would be of great Advantage to the Nabob, nor can we see how Fort St. David will contribute so much more to the Health of the Men than Trivedy, as we are well inform'd the latter Place affords very good Shelter for them and a Letter to Major Lawrence on this Subject is now read and sign'd, Copy whereof follows.

TO STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR.

COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE

HONBLE COMPANY'S MILITARY FORCES

IN INDIA.

Sir

Last Night we receiv'd your Letter of the 9th. as we before wrote you we are still convinc'd if the Troops could keep the Field, it might be attended with great Advantages ; but as you tell us the Weather will not permit it, You will therefore order them into St. David, and assist the Nabob as much as possible.

We conceive it would not have been adviseable to have attack'd the Morattas while they were acting jointly with you in distressing the Enemy ; If your People cannot keep the Field, they as Horse must be in a much worse Condition, and when they found you inclin'd to go into Garrison, 'twas natural for them to think of Shelter. We mention'd to you in a former Letter, Mr. Dupliex was treating with the Mysore King, in whose pay the Morattas are, five Lacks to be paid down & one & a half ℔ Month is what they demand.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.*——

When we consider the several Places reduc'd to the Nabob's Obedience in the short Space from the taking Arcot to the Surrender of Changleput, the Advantages to him and the inconsiderable Loss of Men, as well as the Distress of the Enemy from it; We could not conceive the Reduction of some other Places impracticable, when we have Advices of their being bare of Men, Ammunition and Provisions.

As you may continue some time in Winter Quarters, the adjusting Accounts with the Nabob we think absolutely necessary & as we apprehend the Musters given in by the Subidars of the Seapoys are not to be depended on, we desire they may be examin'd into as well as the Charges of the Troop of Horse & that of Cooleys & Bullocks which appear to us extremely large & that you will give us your Opinion whether these Expences cannot be greatly lessen'd. We are

Sir

Your most obedient Servants

Fort St. George
15 Novr. 1752

THOMAS SAUNDERS
CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH

Monday the 20th.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows vizt.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA COUNCIL OF
FORT ST GEORGE.

Trivedy Nov 13th. 1752.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have the Honour of your Letter of the 6th Instant, in answer to mine dated the 28th of last Month I'm sorry to find that though you still intend to pursue a Plan which I declared impossible for me to put in Practice at this time, you have appointed no one to take the Command, I desir'd to lay down the Service and promis'd to give my Reasons for it; Your acknowledging to have seen the Camp Correspondence will save the Trouble as they are fully contain'd there, and I only intended to transcribe the Letters that pass'd between the Governour and me when I made the Proposal, however I shall be ready to explain any thing further that's in my power when I have the Pleasure of waiting on you in Council.

——*FORT St. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.*——

As you don't determine for going into Winter Quarters, I have secur'd every thing here in the best Manner though unable to keep the Men from being wet, and I am sorry to tell you the Officers have felt the Effects of the Season. Ensign Morrice is sent to Cuddalore and Capt. Gauppe Lieuts Gurtler and Kemp are exceeding ill, so there remain very few to do Duty. As I can be of no further Service I propose leaving the Army under Captain Clarke's Command and shall go into Fort St David to morrow, which I hope will meet with your Approbation.

I have little more to add to my Letter of the 9th but that on my applying to Mr. Starke for a Reinforcement when the Morattas turn'd our Enemies he could not spare me an Officer; Judge then Gentlemen of our Distress on that account and what will be the Consequence if none are capable of acting when the Season permits for Military Operations. I have the honour to be with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient servant

S. LAWRENCE.

The President lays before the Board the Military Correspondence which is read.

Captain Dalton advises that Moraree continues to make great Protestations of Friendship, and says 'tis true he was in hopes of getting a Sum from Mr. Dupliex and therefore flatter'd him a little but in his heart he is attach'd to the Nabob's Interest and on being ask'd the Reason of Innis Cawn's leaving the Nabob he answer'd that there had happen'd a Quarrel between his People and the English at Trivedy which made it necessary for them to part.

Captain Saunderson at Arcot advises that he has Intelligence from Velour of one Gowen Rowe being gone from thence to Chetteput to solicit of the French a Party of Europeans with some Pieces of Cannon and Mortars which Murtaz Ally Cawn promises to join with five thousand Moratta Horse and all the Forces in that Fort as soon as the Waters fall to make an Attempt on Arcot.

The President acquaints the Board that he has Intelligence of several Parties of the Enemy's Seapoys moving this way and that a Design is form'd of attacking Saudet Bander as soon as the Season will permit, offering to their Consideration whether it will be most for the Nabob's Interest to demolish or keep that Fort, which being duly weighed and deliberated, the Board are unanimously of Opinion that it will be most adviseable to raze it, as it is a place of no other Consequence or Advantage than as it prevents the Enemy's Incursions from thence into these Parts which will again be expos'd to their Ravages should that Fort fall into their Hands however before any Measures be taken hereon, the President is desir'd to write to Messrs: Starke and Lawrence for their Opinion on the Subject.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

Monday the 27th

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH

The President lays before the Board a Letter to him from Major Lawrence which with two General Letters from him is now read as follows.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.*——

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. Fort St. David 15th. Nov. 1752.

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF

FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I came here last Night after settling every thing in the best Manner I could for the Preservation of the Men during the remaining Part of the Monsoon, but as the Rains continue very violent I am afraid we shall lose a great many in this Sickly Season. The following is a Copy of the Orders I left with Captain Clarke who will be glad of your further Directions.

TO CAPTAIN JOHN CLARK Trivedy Nov. 14th. 1752.

Sir

"Having occasion to go into Fort St. David you will take the Command of the "Troops in and about this Garrison and defend the Place to the utmost in case of an "Attack; You will likewise assist the Nabob Anaverdy Cawn Behader against all his "Enemies and Opposers whatsoever the Method of doing which is left to your own "Discretion, and as the present rainy Season prevents us from seeking the Enemy you "will while it lasts secure the Men in the best Manner possible from the Inclemency "of the Weather and send the Sick constantly to Fort St. David which I'll desire "Mr. Starke to replace from thence.

"You will write me constantly that we may be able to supply you with what is "wanted and be in Readiness to receive such further Orders as from time to time "will be sent you.

I am Sir

Your most obedient Servant

STRINGER LAWRENCE

I shall always be glad of seeking every Opportunity to shew my Zeal for the Service of my Honourable Masters, and as far as my Capacity extends, every step I have taken was design'd at least as conducive to their Interest. I have the honour to be with the Greatest Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Your most obedient Servant

S. LAWRENCE

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Fort St. David Nov. 16th. 1752.

Sir

I have the Honour of yours No 44 inclosing the Nabobs; I don't know of any thing new to acquaint you with since my last Letter to the Governour & Council. Moraree and Innis Cawn have made no Motion this way yet as I can hear of; I believe they are prevented by the Badness of the Weather, besides 'tis impossible for Carriages to travel now, the Roads are so deep. Please to give what Orders you think proper about the Nabob's Prisoners. I think Changleput is a very proper Place.

——*FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.*——

As I have the Misfortune to differ in Opinion with the Gentlemen about our Military Transactions which prevents me from acting I hope somebody will be appointed to command in my Stead least [*Sic*] the Publick Service should suffer for I can never consent to pursue a Plan contrary to my Reason as a Soldier, my Reputation would deservedly undergo a severe Censure if I did. I have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect.

Sir

Your most Obedient and most

humble Servant

S. LAWRENCE.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS $ESQ^{R.}$ Fort $S^{t.}$ David Nov. $23^{d.}$ 1752.

PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR $\&C^{A.}$ COUNCIL OF

FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have wrote to Captain Clark acquainting him with your Orders for the Troops to march into $S^{t.}$ David and have directed him to leave a Garrison for the Defence of Trivedy consisting of a Captain, two Subalterns, a hundred Europeans and two Companies of Seapoys which will be sufficient with some of the Nabob's People. I must confess the keeping our Men in the Field during the Monsoon on the certainty of it's being attended with great Advantages is entirely beyond my Comprehension but I have already said enough on this Subject and can only add now that from a Consciousness of my Inability to execute any Plan with Credit as a Soldier in this Season I desir'd you would favour somebody else with your Orders and let me still beg you'll think of doing it lest our Honble Masters should suffer to whom I have given a particular Account of my Situation and shall patiently wait their Determination.

I have often wondered why the Blacks should appear such formidable Enemies to the English more than our Neighbours that we must comply with their little Humours and discover a fear at their leaving us, the only thing which could make them presume to oppose us. Believe me Gentlemen 'tis our white Adversaries that we are to guard against & the only way to deal with the others is to let no Fault go unpunish'd. Does it appear that the French are thought a Bit the worse of by the King of Mysore for attempting his Family's Ruin and the plundering his Country. I did not advise to attack the Morattas 'till it was plain they were no longer in our Interest and I can't help wishing even at this time that the Thing had been done.

I shall take it as a particular Favour if you'll explain the Paragraph in regard to the Taking of Places. Have I neglected any thing on this Head; 'twill answer no End at present to point out what might have been done, since I have found my Opinion to have very little Weight; but I believe $M^{r.}$ Saunders can inform you that he positively forbid Captain Clive from joining me or sending the heavy Cannon when I was in the Neighbourhood of Chetteput, though I wrote word they might be wanted and I fancy if your Advices are true, Waldour is neither bare of Men, Ammunition or Provisions, the Reduction of which Place I still declare impracticable during the Monsoon.

The Nabob will settle his Accounts whenever you please and I think this is a proper time. As $M^{r.}$ Palk (not the Subidars) musters the Seapoys, I am of Opinion the Rolls sent in are just, and as this Gentleman has been indefatigable in the Discharge of his Duty, by putting every thing on a Regular Footing, your Instructions will I don't doubt enable him to lessen the Expence, and be assur'd no Advice or

Assistance on my part shall ever be wanting. The Troop of Horse is greatly reduc'd, but as the Pay of Cooleys and Bullocks was settled before I took the Command, it has not been in my power to alter it for fear of their leaving us in the Field; however I think the Thing might be attempted when the Army goes out again and M^r. Palk in whose Province this likewise falls will do all he can.

I have the Honour to be with the Greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient and most

Humble Servant

S. LAWRENCE.

Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly writes that a Bramin and Seapoy having been sent by the Daloway to endeavour to corrupt the Seapoys in that Fort, they had been detected in the Fact which was further prov'd by a writing under their Hands, that Kiroudy Cawn had ordered them to be executed which was accordingly done. That the Rajah has lately receiv'd a Present from M^r. Dupliex of an Artificial Fig Tree, the Fruit of which is Gold curiously wrought; That he is moving from Syringam, repassing the River to his former Camp and gives out that he will go to Madura but his Intentions are doubtful.

Letters from the Nabob are now produc'd and read, advising the Death of Gazedey Cawn, who it is suspected was poison'd, and that it is reported one of his Sons is to succeed him.

The President acquaints the Board that the Veloor Phousdar's Vakeel having assur'd him of his Master's Readiness to accommodate Matters with the Nabob under our Mediation, he had thereupon desir'd the Vackeel to deliver in his Proposals and intended writing to the Nabob to do the same that the Matter may be effected with the greater Facility, though there is yet Reason to doubt if the Phousdar is really sincere.

The Board having deliberated on the present Circumstances of Affairs Agreed to communicate their Sentiments to Messrs. Starke and Lawrence and to desire their Opinion, a Draught of a Letter is accordingly now settled, order'd to be transcrib'd for signing and enter'd after the Minutes of this Consultation, Copy whereof follows

TO RICHARD STARKE AND STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^RS.

Gentlemen

Advices from Aurungabad mention that Gazedey Cawn is dead, suppos'd to be poison'd; it is reasonable to conclude that this will cause a great Alteration; 'tis possible his Son may be advance'd in his Stead, and as possible that Salabat Jung may succeed to his Honours, if the latter, and, the Situation of Affairs will admit, not unlikely but the French may endeavour to draw him into this Province, and as the fair Season approaches he may easily come by the End of February; it is necessary therefore to have our Forces as collected as possible, and no more in the Country Forts than Necessity requires.

Quære. Whether the Nabob's bringing the Prisoners from Arcot to Changleput, will not be a Step to it.

Quære. Whether those at S^t. David may not also be mov'd there by which means that Garrison will be greatly reliev'd and be able to furnish a Reinforcement to the Army.

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1752.*———

By the Death of Chunda Saib, the Nabob's Competitor for the Subahship was destroyed, some unlucky Incidents retarded his Affairs by which they were much prejudic'd, but would have been easily settled had the French listen'd to reasonable Terms, great Offers were made by the Nabob but rejected, they declare themselves his Enemies and by them a Party is supported whose only Interest lies in disturbing not settling the Province, an Alliance has been for some time negotiating between them, the Mysore King, and Velour Phousdar, this Alliance is not yet concluded, though it very probably may, some Jealousies subsist, the Veloor Vackeel is here and represents his Master would be glad to settle Matters with the Nabob on the same Footing with his Father, the King of Tanjour by his General's cutting off Chunda Saib has greatly incens'd the French, and the Mysore King's possessing Trichinopoly is so diametrically opposite to his Interest that there is a great Appearance of his being in our Interest. These are the different Interests that appear at Present, it remains for the Nabob and us to consider what Measures the Enemy may take to annoy and we to disconcert their Schemes.

We have before wrote you of our Advices to Mr Bourchier, which if a Son of Gazedey Cawn should be declar'd may have its proper Effect, should Salabat Jung be proclaim'd and march this way, our Plan must be calculated so as not to put any of our Settlements to risque.

At present there is no Army to oppose the Nabob's, should the Alliance on foot succeed, it cannot escape our Notice that the whole Burthen of Expence must lye on the Mysore King or the French, tis extravagantly large, if the latter we don't see how they can support it, they collect little now in this Province, their only Resource is from Metchlepatam and this but trifling compar'd to so large a Charge, nor can they expect to be reimburs'd here in a considerable Time, their Views therefore must be extensive and this is corroborated by Mr. Dupliex's rejecting the advantagious Offers made him by the Nabob. Their Plan for Operations seems to be that when the Season permits they will plunder, burn and destroy the Country to distress the Nabob; to prevent which (Quære) whether the Nabob's Army join'd by Tanjour Horse are not sufficient to watch the Motions of theirs; Whether at the same Time other of the Tanjour Troops join'd with the Nabob's Forces at Trichenopoly may not easily manage the Mysore King, and if the Nabob can dispose of his Prisoners in one Place, a still further Force may be collected to join Abdul Vahab Cawn which will enable him to collect the Rents.

The Nabob has promis'd to give Orders on the different Amuldars for the exact Payment of the several Troops at those Places, and Orders for Sums of Money for discharging his Debt and defraying the Expences, without this 'tis impossible for us to support them; we are therefore drawing out the Particulars to be deliver'd him. This is certainly a Matter of the greatest Importance to him, and would be render'd easy, if Wandevash, Chetteput and Gingee could be reduc'd to his Obedience, we therefore recommend it to your serious Consideration, whether something cannot be attempted against all or either of those Places.

We are in hopes the Expences may be curtailed but this, as Major Lawrence has the Command, as 'tis not our Intention to distress the Army, we must leave to his Judgment and can only strongly recommend an Enquiry whether greater Allowances are not given for Bullocks, than necessary, whether the Number of Cooleys and Lascars employed are effective, that the Seapoys be muster'd to prevent the Subidars false Returns, and whether the Men cannot be dieted upon easier Batta. We desire Major Lawrence's Opinion, as we are convinc'd of his Zeal for the Service, and as we would make every thing as easy to him as possible; We have appointed Mr Robert Palk, a Gentleman whose Capacity and Integrity we are assur'd of, to discharge all such Disbursements as shall be approv'd.

Several Parties of Seapoys and some Military have been sent from Pondicherry towards Sadrass, what their Designs are we cannot yet learn; 'tis rumour'd there is some Intention on Covelong, if the French should detach this way we think it adviseable you do so too, as half our Garrison are in the Hospital which renders it impossible for us to support any Outposts.

——FORT S^T. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.——

This is what occurs to us, on which we should be glad of your Sentiments. We are, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Servants, Thomas Saunders, Charles Boddam, Henry Powney, Alexander Wynch, John Smith.

THO^S. SAUNDERS
CHA^S: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
A^R WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R, GOV^R. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH

Monday The 4th December

General Letter from Messrs: Starke and Lawrence read offering as their Opinion that it will be extremely proper to blow up the Fort of Saudet Bander as the keeping a Garrison there only weakens the Nabob's Army, and should it fall again into the Enemy's hands it will be very advantagious to them.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read Copy whereof follows.

TO THE HON^BLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. Fort St David Novr. 30th 1752.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &C. COUNCIL OF
FORT S^T GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Since my Arrival at this Place I have been employed in getting every thing in readiness against the Season will permit for the Troops to take the Field, and as the Governour has put it out of my Power to act any longer at the Head of the Army 'till I hear from England, I thought it my Duty to acquaint you that it will be very necessary for the Person whom you honour with the Command to be here for some time before they march, which will enable him to judge for the best what is wanting for the ensuing Campaign.

I must give it as my humble Opinion that it will be absolutely necessary to keep up a small Troop of Horse, at least to consist of an Officer, two Serjeants, two Corporals, one Drummer & thirty private, which if you approve of, Please to order that a proper Number of Horses be provided as we are at present very short of the Compliment.

As I would omit no Opportunity of being usefull to my Honourable Masters I shall be oblig'd to you for your Opinion whether my going to any other of their Settlements will be of Service and am ready to receive your Orders on this Subject. I must recommend strenuously that a Good Interpreter be provided for the Officer who is to command as I have greatly felt the want of one.

Two of the Company's Merchants, Tonneveroy and Cootah make a Demand for Horses kill'd in the Service The first Pagodas two hundred and eleven for two Persian Horses and the latter Pagodas two hundred and ninety (290) for a Persia and Acheen Horse. Captain DeGingins will be able to inform you of their Value and I

hope the People will be satisfied in consequence. The Soldiers who were taken Prisoners at Madrass have been plaguing me again for their Arrears of Pay. I beg You'll honour me with your Directions about them.

I am with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most obedient and

most humble Servant

S. Lawrence

Captain Dalton confirms his former advices of the Daloways Intentions of going to Caroor and says that Part of his Army and Baggage is already in motion that way but are prevented from proceeding by the Heigth [*Sic*] of the River, He and Moraree continue at Syringham but it is reported the latter is going to join his Army at Somiaveram and whatever Pretences may be made 'tis pretty certain he is still in the Dalloway's Service and acts by his Orders, they have renewed their Application to have Gopaul Rauze out of Trichinopoly but Kiroudy Cawn pays no Regard to it.

Captain Sanderson at Arcot writes that he had intercepted three Letters done up in Wax and had thereupon prevented any Communication between the French Officers and Men, the Letters are to the following Effect

One from a French Serjeant at Veloor to the French Prisoners, extolling the Happiness and Advantages of his Situation at Veloor, and exhorting them to make their Escape.

Another is from a Corporal at the same Place to a Deserter to the same Effect as the former and assuring him that his Commander has full Power from Mr. Dupliex to pardon him and all the other Deserters that will return

The Third is anonymous, as follows "The Persons who will deliver you this "note have agreed to deliver up the Fort where you are to me and to arm you that "you may second them, if the Thing should succeed as I hope it will you must "immediately give me notice of it and be well on your Guard with all your People. "You must hoist the white Flag.

Captain Sanderson also writes that he is advis'd the Enemy have taken Trivitore and intend to attack Muslepauk and that it is reported two hundred Europeans are in Motion from Gingee.

On Receipt of Captain Sanderson's Letter it was judg'd necessary that the French Prisoners should not remain any longer at Arcot and a Detachment from hence was immediately order'd to join a Party of the Nabob's Forces to escort them to Changleput, the President at the same time wrote to Captain Sanderson that if he should detect any Persons endeavouring to decoy his People or in any Treacherous Design to put the Military Laws in Execution, enjoining him to be constantly on his Guard, and watchful over the Place committed to his Charge.

The President also wrote to Ensign Paccard at Changleput that if any small Parties of the Enemy's Sepoys should appear thereabouts, to attack them if he thought himself capable of defeating them without much Risque.

As the Season will soon permit taking the Field, there is too much reason to apprehend the French and Morattas will destroy and ruin the Country as the most effectual means of distressing the Nabob ; we therefore think he should endeavour by all means to engage them in his Service for two or three months as the most probable means of preventing it by which time the Harvest will be over, and that no time may be lost in concerting Measures when the Troops should take the Field, it is Agreed to write our Sentiments to Messrs: Starke & Lawrence and desire theirs and that they will take such Measures as they think may best prevent the Enemy's Incursions into these Countries, as we cannot do it from hence above half our Garrison being in the Hospital and at the same time acquaint them that the President has wrote to the King of Tanjour to join the Nabob with two thousand Horse.

——*FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*——

As Mess$^{rs:}$ Starke and Lawrence concur in opinion with the Nabob and us as to the Expediency of demolishing the Fort of Saudet Bander ; Ordered that the necessary Directions be given for razing it accordingly.

A Box of Papers having fallen into the Nabob's Hands at Saudet Bander after the Surrender of that Fort, among the Rest was found a Letter (as enter'd in the intercepted Letters N° 8) to M$^{r.}$ LeBlan who commanded there from Mr Very Des$^{t.}$ Romain at Indatour in which is a Paragraph directing him to attack St Thomé, as this is a further Proof of Mr Dupliex's Disregard to his Britannick Majesty's Flag and a manifest Breach of Treaty 'tis Agreed to send him an Extract of the said Letter and protest against him and the Council of Pondicherry for the Consequences and a Letter is now sign'd as enter'd in the French Correspondence N$^{o.}$ 28.

Having again resum'd the Consideration of Major Lawrence's Request to resign the Service, after revising the Correspondence between the President and him, we are of Opinion that the present unhappy Misunderstanding (the more so for that we shall probably be destitute of any other Officer of approv'd Capacity to take the Chief Command of the Forces) can arise from no other Cause than a total Misapprehension of our true Motives, for certainly if Major Lawrence imagin'd we acted according to the best of our Abilities for the Company's Interest, tho' we might happen to be mistaken, he never could be disgusted because we differ from him in opinion, yet he is so and that seems to be the Principal Cause, though in reality we cannot help thinking the Promotion of Officers has given Rise to this untimely Dissention ; Nor in this can we see any just Reason to complain as we have only conducted ourselves in Conformity to the Example set us by our Honble Masters in giving regular Succession to their Servants, (except where good Objections appear) and in obedience to their Commands express'd in the Military Regulations. Considering the Affair in this Light we are of Opinion that it would have a good Effect if a Letter were wrote to Major Lawrence recapitulating the whole Correspondence, stating those parts he complains of in a clear and true Light and assuring him that We never intended any Slight but have acted from the Beginning according to the best of our Judgment for the publick Good, desiring he will reassume the Command of the Army. And Draught of a Letter to the foregoing Effect is order'd to be drawn and laid before the Board at their next Consultation.

THO$^{S.}$ SAUNDERS
CHA$^{S.}$ BODDAM
JOHN SMITH. HENRY POWNEY
A^{R} WYNCH

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ$^{R.}$ GOV$^{R.}$ PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH JOHN SMITH. **Fryday The 8th.**

General Letters from M$^{r.}$ Robert Westgarth and M$^{r.}$ Thomas Taylor at Syrian receiv'd from Bengal viâ Vizagapatam read as follows vizt

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &C COUNCIL OF
FORT S^{T} GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I just take this Opportunity to inform you that I have had an Audience with the King at Pegu, and this day his Brother Upper Rajah is come to this Place to deliver the Hon̄ble Company's Ground to me and I have great Reason to think they will

comply with any thing that it will be for the Company's Interest, they promise me all the former Priviledges the Company had, and as I am at a Loss to know what they were beg your Honour &c. will please to inform me and as I shall have Occasion to write to the King desire you will please to send me a Seal, the same that his Letter was seal'd with and as I am making Preparation to receive Upper Rajah, renders it impossible for me to write you more fully; As the Fortune Sloop will be dispatch'd in a few days; I shall then inform you of all my Proceedings & remain with great Respect; Honble Sir & Sirs

Syrian — Your most obedient, humble Servant.

$29^{th.}$ Sept. 1752 — $ROB^{T.}$ WESTGARTH.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &c. COUNCIL OF

FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE

Honble Sir & Sirs,

In my last I sent you a Plan of the Little Negrais, the North Point of which I judge the best Place for a Town for it's being situated near the best Harbour for Ships and having the best Water upon the Island from natural Springs and from a Water Fall which runs from a Cavity in the Hill behind the Place above-mention'd, but at present the low Land is quite overgrown with Trees in such a manner that I can't possibly tell the Distance from the Water Side to the Hills but judge it about a Quarter of a Mile in the Broadest Part, the Hills will cover the back Part of the Town, a Fortification may be made here without a very great Expence as the Foundation will be very easily laid, it being Rocks and Gravel and large Quantities of Wood and Stone is close to hand. The Trees are of all Sorts & Sizes and will I believe be sufficient for any work we may want; The Northwest & South East Points must be like wise fortify'd and then the whole Island may be defended against a great Force.

Upon my Arrival I was inform'd by Mr Westgarth that the King had sent Orders and that he had wrote me to come to this Place, as I was so fortunate as to come away before the Letters came to hand, it has been a great means of convincing the King of our good Intentions and he receiv'd us with more Respect than (by what Mr Westgarth tells me any Europeans that has been to see him upon any Account, since he has been King.

As the French had made large Presents at their hoisting of Colours, Mr Westgarth thought it proper to enlarge that you sent to make it of something more Value than theirs, as nothing could be more acceptable than Small Arms, Guns and Ammunition, he apply'd to me for such as he wanted and I supply'd him as ℔ Account inclos'd.

The 20th Instant we were sent for to Pegu, the 23^{d} we arriv'd and sent to advise the King and Upper Rajah of our Arrival, who sent orders for us to go to them the next day, We went first to Upper Rajah, after Mr Westgarth had acquainted him with his Business he told him I was the Person appointed by the Company to reside and settle on the Little Negrais but as I found the Island belong'd to the King of Pegu I was come to sollicit his Majesty's Permission & Assistance, he then told us it was a very sickly Place & many Rogues harbour'd there and that it had never been inhabited before, that the French had requested it some time ago but were refus'd and said if that Place should be granted you, what will they say, it will cause the French and You to quarrel; I told him I was ordered there by the Honble Company and there I must be at all Events but as it belong'd to the King of Pegu we did not chuse to settle it without his Permission as it might be a means of getting his Displeasure, and as the Place is of no manner of use to him, the Company might

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*——

be displeas'd if refus'd, and as to the Climate we could not better, but if his Majesty would give us Permission we would take care to disperse the Rogues ; He then ask'd why we could not as well settle at Persaim, this Place the Dutch formerly built Ships at and was a Place of great Trade and has been lately settled by this King and by what I can learn is about twenty Mile from the little Negrais, I said we should be glad of a Factory at that Place but we must have the Negrais likewise, as our large Ships could not go up so far without Danger ; he said it was very well, what he had said was only his Opinion and hop'd the King would be more in our Favour. We then took our Leave of him to go to the King and as soon as he was ready he sent for us in and receiv'd us in a very handsome Manner. Mr. Westgarth deliver'd your Honours Letter, which was open'd but being wrote in Persians, nobody there could read it, He then ask'd our Business, Mr Westgarth spoke what he had to say, and I told him my Business, He ask'd if the Present was for both Places, we told him it was the Company's Present and that I did not think of coming here or I should have brought a greater, and we were both upon the Company's Account. He then ask'd if we had got a Translate of the Letter or if we knew the Contents of it and if I was mention'd, we told him we could not tell, he then desir'd we would go to Upper Rajah in the Morning and then come to him, and by that time he would have the Letter translated and then he should see what the Company requir'd of him. He express'd great Friendship for the Honble Company and at the same time argued against our Resolution of settling on the Negrais in the manner Upper Rajah did and we answer'd to the same Purport, we then took our Leave of him and the next day we waited upon Upper Rajah where our Discourse upon Publick Affairs was chiefly upon the Negrais, he urg'd all the Difficulties and was answer'd as on the preceding day and further I told him I was only come to request the Place of his Majesty & to desire him to let me know how it might be obtain'd and that the Company had ordered a Settlement there and that I was oblig'd to pursue all Measures to obtain it and if I was refus'd I must beg Leave to go to Madrass to acquaint the Honble Company of it, He then ask'd if the Letter mention'd about me, I said I could not tell but believ'd it might, well says he I expect the Letter translated presently and if you are mention'd we will see what we can do for you ; Mr Westgarth acquainted him in the most pathetick manner with the Paragraph you wrote him in respect to the Negrais but he did not seem to take much Notice of it but said Letters must first come from your Honble Board. Soon after the Translator came with both Letters which Upper Rajah order'd to be read and to my great Sorrow I found the Letter did not mention any thing relating to the Negrais, upon which he told me he believ'd nothing could be done 'till Letters arriv'd from you and then he believ'd we might succeed. We then desir'd we might go to the King, he went before us to the Palace, we staid at the Gate a little for Admittance and then were introduc'd to his Majesty, who receiv'd us as he sate magnificently drest and crown'd upon his Throne, and the Secretary was call'd to read the Letter which was done with an audible Voice, so as to be heard by his whole Court, and as the particulars of the Present was not mention'd, Mr. Westgarth gave an account which was read as the Letter was. His Majesty seem'd well pleas'd with the Letter and Present and immediately told Mr. Westgarth he granted what the Company had requested and that at the Expiration of the Feast he would send Upper Rajah to deliver up the Ground and sign the Firmaun. When I found his Majesty said nothing to me of the Negrais I desir'd he would give me an answer about it. He told me the Letter did not mention me but as soon as he receiv'd a Letter from your Honours, he would then see what was to be done. I then requested him to give me his Word not to grant it to any body else 'till the Letters should arrive which he did. We then took our Leave of him but Upper Rajah desir'd us to wait on him next Morning before we went away which we did and had a great deal of Discourse about our Affairs and he assur'd me in the strongest Terms that none but the Honble Company should have the Negrais but a Letter must come and told me the French had not ask'd for the Place, he had only said so at first to keep us in Suspence. He seem'd extremely well pleas'd when Mr Westgarth told him he had orders to make as firm an Alliance as possible between his Majesty and the Honble Company.

——FORT St. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.——

I must now beg that your Honours will favour me with Letters to the King and Upper Rajah wrote in Malabars and in English both inclos'd together, there is a great deal of Trouble to get the Persians translated.

Be pleas'd to write the particular Priviledges you desir'd to the King and Upper Rajah and the Reasons you have to settle the Negrais as we could give no other than to fit our large Ships and to harbour them in time of Monsoons. Pray write to have that Part of the Negrais that is without the harbour and abreast of the Island and pressingly to desire punctual Orders to his Government there to assist me with what People and other Necessaries I may want.

I have now buried four Europeans and the rest continue sickly, Inclos'd is a List of their Names and Time of Death.

If I should go to the Negrais again I shall want more Money for nothing can be done without it. The Custom of the Place is most extravagant to give Bills or take Money at Interest if I should want it, I shall likewise want two Sloops of some Force to attend the Place 'till we are well fortified.

As I had Occasion for Cordage and Cutlery for Presents when at the Negrais ; I purchas'd them of Captn. Grierson and have given him Bills on your Honble Board to the amount of Pagodas two hundred & eight, four fanams forty Cash (208 : 4 : 40.

I have sent a Remnant of a Cable bought of Capt. Grierson as ℔ Invoice inclos'd in the Yorkshire Grey as I have no further use for it.

I am

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your Honours most obedient & most humble Servant

THOMAS TAYLOR.

Syrian

30th. September 1752

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Capt. Dalton at Trichinopoly wherein he advises that Moraree has at last taken his Leave of the King & pass'd over the River to his Camp. The latter it is still reported will in a few days go to Caroor ; That Kiroudy Cawn says he has certain Intelligence that the Agreement made & sworn to before their God at Syringham is that Moraree shall not act with the Nabob but is to have a Lack and a half of Rupees to join the French which Mr. Dupliex is to double.

Whereupon the President wrote to Captain Dalton that if Moraree (as is reported) has enter'd into an Alliance with the French it must soon appear, and he has already wrote to the King of Tanjour desiring him in that case to join the Forces at Trichinopoly which will disconcert their Scheme, in the mean time it is necessary to be cautious but on no account be the Aggressors and if the Dalloway & Moraree should withdraw any Distance from Trichinopoly so as to afford an Opportunity of sending the Mortars, Guns &c. Stores to Deve Cotah, by all means to do it.

The President lays before the Board an Account of the Pay and Batta to the several Garrisons where we have Forces which it is thought necessary should be sent to the Nabob, insisting that he give Orders on the Amuldars of the several Places to discharge the same monthly for that it will be out of our Power to bear the Expence, and at the same time that we desire he will inform us in what manner he proposes to conduct his Affairs through their present Perplexity, that we are of Opinion the first Thing he should consider is how to gain the Mysorean and Moratta to his Interest or at least keep them from joining the French, which should they do, it must greatly distress him as the Season is now approaching for gathering in the Revenues and if the Morattas should plunder the Country before the Crops are got in, it will be impossible to collect any thing, that another very essential Point is to engage the King of Tanjour to join him without Delay, but that if all his Efforts to keep the Daloway and Moraree quiet should fail we shall consider them as his Enemies and treat them as such.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*——

Mr. Westgarth in a private Letter to the President having acquainted him that a handsome Palankeen would be an acceptable Present to the King of Pegu, It is Agreed to send one as soon as it can be made and an Opportunity offers as gratifying him in a thing of this Kind may be conducive to the Ends we propose.

Although Messrs. Starke and Cooke are at Fort St. David, yet as Members of this Board we think they ought to subscribe all Letters of Consequence when time will permit; Agreed therefore that in future all such be inclos'd to them for that purpose leaving Room for them to sign.

Pursuant to a Resolution of last Consultation, a Draught of a Letter to Major Lawrence is now read, approv'd and ordered to be transcrib'd; Copy whereof follows. Vizt

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr

Sir

On Receipt of your Letter of the 28th October advising of your Request to lay down the Service, which you have since done and desiring we would give our Commands to Captain Clarke, though you had been told we had no Officer to relieve you, at the same time telling us you were ready to acquaint us with your Reasons; we desir'd you would do it to which your reply is that as we had seen the Camp Correspondence it would save so much Trouble, as they were fully contain'd there and that you only meant to transcribe it; we shall Therefore point out to you the Particulars of which you complain wherein we don't perceive any thing but what is agreeable to your Commission, the Company's Orders and Interest.

In your Letter of the 2d September complaining of Slights you ask Leave to retire from the Service and go home, and mention the Badness of your Interpreter. Mr Lawrence's Lettr. 2d Septr.

In answer to this the President under Date 17th September intimating that there was no Officer to relieve you, & that the Service would suffer, told you he judg'd it a Request extremely imprudent in you to make or we to grant, and said he had sent to Paupah Braminy to be your Linguist which no perswasions will induce him to accept. President's Letter 17th Septr.

That of the 14th September was the next that came to hand wherein you express your Zeal for the Service, but that imagining you had the naming of all Officers, as you found yourself a Cypher you desir'd the Favour the President would appoint them for you would name none that you might not be expos'd again to have your Appointment set aside. Mr. Lawrence's Letter 14th Septr.

The President's Answer to this, the 17th Septr. was that the Company's Orders and Regulations Military expressly say that each Officer was to succeed according to his Rank without some just Objection to it, that as they had been particularly honourable in giving him his Standing in their Service, he should be extremely cautious how he infring'd this Rule, that You he believ'd had quitted the King's Service on being superceded, that he desir'd you would make the Case of those Gentlemen your own, that it was certainly yours to recommend, that he did not interfere in it and hop'd you would Consider those Officers who had in general been in the Field and behav'd well. President's Letter 17 Septr.

In regard to setting aside any Appointment, we suppose it must mean Mr. Ripington, on his Arrival he was offer'd a Commission of Lieutenant of the Train, it was rejected and when a Lieutenant of the Military was mention'd; The President, Mr. Cockell and the Rest of the Council were present, the Injustice to the Officers in the Field was urg'd, and it was thought not proper; he went out as a Voluntier & you gave him a Brevet as Lieutenant, this was neither confirm'd nor rejected; When the several Vacancies were to be fill'd up, Room was made for him as a Lieutenant which he declin'd because he was not nam'd first, but has since desir'd to accept of any Commission that may be given him. When you consider of the Military Regulations, and Company's Orders, when you reflect on your own Disappointment in a case of the like Nature, when the Disgust to the Superceded is weigh'd who possibly

———*FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*———

may many of them throw up their Commissions by which means we lose several, on the other Hand as your Military Experience will convince you of the Cheerfulness and Alacrity Subalterns follow and obey their Commanders who preserve to them their Rank, you cannot call this making you a Cypher or in the least derogating from the Authority of your Commission, Though $M^{r.}$ Ripington may have serv'd as a Lieutenant at $S^{t.}$ Helena, 'tis a general Rule with the Company that the Servants of one Settlement removing to another do not supercede the Servants of that Settlement.

Mr. Lawrence's Letter 21 Septr.

Your Letter of the 21st September contains your several Grievances; that concerning $M^{r.}$ Ripington is already taken notice of.

When you was at Madrass, the President observing a Reservedness desir'd you would explain the Occasion of your Uneasiness; You mention'd $Cap^{t.}$ Maskelyne's coming up here and Captain Pigou's relieving him, the President then told you that Major Kinneer who commanded in Garrison apply'd to him for Leave to $M^{r.}$ Maskelyne to come here and $M^{r.}$ Pigou to relieve him which was granted, Captain Pigou was in Garrison at Fort $S^{t.}$ David with the Escort that you sent in with the large Number of French Prisoners; The Garrison was still so weak that we were oblig'd to order it to be reinforc'd, so that Captain Pigou could not have return'd to you.

Touching the Officers going on Detachment which were taken at Pondicherry. On the Arrival of the Swiss Troops it appearing that many were Roman Catholicks and Desertion beginning to be very frequent, it was resolv'd one Company should be sent to $S^{t.}$ David, after your Arrival they were detach'd but $Cap^{t.}$ Schaub seeming inclinable to stay here, the President told him it was not proper to declare what they were intended for after their Arrival at $S^{t.}$ David the Rest you were acquainted with, you saw and approv'd the Orders and Passport.

Mr. Lawrence's Letter 21 Septr.

These are the Uneasiness you mention'd and upon being ask'd if You was satisfy'd, reply'd yes and this you mention in your Letter of the 21st September, if any fresh Cause of Complaint has offer'd, we shall take notice of it in the Course of the Correspondence.

"Affairs being carried on in Obscurity and you not acquainted with what you "had a Right to know".

When you visited the President every Morning, he shew'd you every Letter or Piece of Advice receiv'd from all Quarters nor when he desir'd you would explain the Occasion of your Uneasiness, was the least Mention made of this, since in Camp in the Correspondence you was advis'd of what occurr'd.

"That the Plan you wrote on your Leaving the Army was neglected".

Mr. Lawrence's Letter 14th May.

In your Letter of the 14th May you say "If we should be fortunate enough to "succeed I must beg your further Orders".

Presidents Lre. 22d May Mr. Lawrence's Lre. 1st June.

The Presidents Letter of the 22^{d} May which you acknowledge the Receipt of in yours of the 1st June runs thus "Should you be successful the first Thing to be pro-"vided for is Money for the Batta and Charges of the Troops, as we have not now "sufficient for our own Current Expences, this you should plainly tell the Nabob and "be sure of, it appears to me for many Reasons that the securing the Arcot Province "would be the next Step necessary, after leaving a sufficient Garrison for the Secu-"rity of Trichinopoly and the Prisoners; Supposing the whole Army was to move "by way of Volcondah, securing the several Forts in the Way and encamp between "Gingee and Pondicherry, this might prevent the French from collecting any "Country Force to join them, and from hence Detachments might be sent to reduce "Chetteput, Wondivash, Velour to the Nabob's Obedience, Consult with the Nabob, "please to acquaint me with his Plan and your Sentiments thereon.

President's Lre. 12 June Mr Lawrence's Do 7th.

This was again enforc'd in the President's Letter of the $12^{th.}$ of June in answer to yours of the 7th (wherein you mention the Nabob propos'd encamping between Pondicherry and Gingee upon the Strength of a Letter wrote him by Mr Dupliex for treating) with this Remark, that an honourable Peace would certainly be much more eligible than War.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*——

This was the Plan propos'd, how beneficial it would have been appears to us from the Reduction of the two Forts of Covelon, or Saudet Bander, and Changleput Part of it is still to be executed though many Difficulties have arisen which render it less easy than it was at that Time.

M. Lawrence's Letter 8th July.

We don't observe any Plan you propose but in that of the 8th July vizt. " The " Army waits for your Orders how to proceed, I should think that to go instantly to " Pondicherry Bounds would be the best Method to procure a speedy and honourable " Peace.

We cannot conceive we have any Authority or Power with Pondicherry Bounds.

" That you were order'd to St. David in an open Boat after coming out of a Fit " of Sickness ".

Going & coming to & from St. David in Boats is no new Thing, many of our Gentlemen have often done it, and for a Certainty there is the greatest Dependence on it. After your leaving the Army to Captain DeGingins he soon fell sick and with Capt. Kilpatrick went into Quarters, Major Kinneer took the Command as soon as possible, an unfortunate Accident happen'd to him, which oblig'd him to go into St. David ; Time, precious Time did not admit of the least Delay ; The Sloop you intended to go on was not arriv'd, after unloading and Ballasting, which took up some time, She was sixteen or eighteen Days on her Passage, the violent Proceedings of Mr. Dupliex in making Prisoners our Detachment oblig'd us to detain the Bombay Castle, though the Season grew late and Treasure was to be loaded on her for the Bay ; She very fortunately met with a lucky Spirt of Wind, but the Opinion of Gentlemen using the Sea, of a Ship going to St. David in August was much otherwise ; The Good of the Service was our only Motive and not any Intention to disgust.

Mr. Lawrence's Letter 18th. October.

Your Letter of the 18th October resumes the old Subject, that the Authority of your Commission was lessen'd and expresses your Disgust at your Letter of the 21st September not being answer'd.

The President's Letter 25 Octr.

A Correspondence of this Nature we judge extremely improper at a time when it was a doubt whether we could safely have any Communication with you by Letter our Hircars and Tappies were knock'd down & their Letters taken by the Morattas ; The President wrote you under Date the 25th October that he had promis'd you the strictest Scrutiny should be made and if any thing appear'd amiss it should be redress'd and that he thought he might claim so much Confidence as to be believ'd. That a perfect Harmony was necessary, that he could attribute the want of it to nothing but a Misunderstanding and desir'd you would point out wherein your Commission had been infring'd ; Certainly such Affairs as these are very unfit to be trusted to Letters so liable to be intercepted.

Mr. Lawrence's Lre. 28 Octr.

We now come to yours of the 28th October renewing your Request and desiring we would give our Orders to Captain Clarke alledging that you could not pursue a Scheme you thought prejudicial to the Company's Interest, This was continuing in the Field.

In regard to Winter Quarters, during your Stay here there was no Thought of the Troops going into St. David, it was our General Opinion that their continuing abroad must be for the Good of the Service, because by this means the several Places under the Nabob would be kept in Obedience, and as his Enemies had receiv'd a severe Stroke in the Engagement near Bawoor, no time could be judg'd so proper to push his Success, as it afforded him a fair Opportunity of reducing the several Places which it was not in the Power of the Enemy to support as they were so weak, it would not allow them time to recruit, besides the Differences between the Nabob and the Mysore King were more easy. This is past ; The French have had Time to recruit, a Ship is arriv'd with more Men, an Alliance with the Mysore King, Morattas and Velour Phousdar on point of Conclusion, The French have collected a Force at Waldore, Supplies of Men, Stores and Provisions have been flung into Gingee, it's Situation is such that from thence they are capable of giving infinite Trouble. Our

—— FORT St. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752. ——

General Letters 6th and 15th Nov. Mr. Lawrence's Lre. 27th Aug. The Presidents Lre 31 Aug. Mr. Lawrences Lre. 26th Sep. Do. Do. 4 th Octr.

Letters of the 6th & 15th November are wrote on this Subject, 'twas never the Design the Troops should go into Garrison, Trivedy or Conjeveram were the Places pitch'd on. In your Letter of the 27th. August is the first mention of Winter Quarters; in the President's Letter of 31st August twas left to You to consult with the Nabob where would be most convenient. In that of yours of the 26th September you mention Changleput and in that of the 4th October your Design of going to Conjeveram, this was render'd impossible as the Ravages of the Morattas would have ruin'd the Country as well as the Investment. When we gave you our Sentiments 'twas not without the Opinion of Officers who had winter'd abroad, well acquainted with the Country, who judg'd there might always in the Towns be shelter for our Men. A Monsoon without bad Weather is not to be expected and we suppose must be attended with some Difficulties but then the Advantages would have been very considerable. As long as Men subsist there will be a Diversity of Opinions, every thing is debated by the Council, it frequently happens that a Gentleman differs in his Sentiments, the Majority decides, but he does not, nor indeed ought he to think it any Affront to him that others are of different Sentiments, or a motive to decline the Service, he may always enter his Dissent.

Mr. Lawrences Letter 29 Octr. General Lre. 6 th Nov

In your Letter of the 29th October, you mention as one Motive for going into St. David that a Saving might be made of near eighty thousand (80,000) Rupees ℘month in the Batta, in our Answer of the 6th November we told you we thought your Calculate imperfect and are still of that Opinion. Many Advantages that would have arisen from keeping the Field or even lying in readiness at Trivedy were very apparent, among the rest the Country thereabouts would have been aw'd and the levying Contributions much facilitated as was instanc'd by the Nabob's Success therein at Wondivash, the Poligar of which Place has taken the Opportunity of the Army's Absence to refuse paying the Sum agreed on whereby the Company will only get of the Nabob fifty thousand (50,000) Rupees instead of a Lack that we think might otherwise have reasonably been expected of him.

Mr. Lawrence's Letters 9th & 13 Nov.

Your Letters of the 9th & 13th November are on the Subject of going into St. David.

It is very certain the Rains will swell the Rivers & during the Rains there must be some illconveniencies instead of the Nabob's asking to go into St. David he has wrote and order'd his Vakeel to press being in the Field, as the only means to prevent his Affairs from suffering, and we heartily wish that when our Troops are in Garrison, the Enemy do not appear abroad and ruin the Country, which 'tis impossible for us from hence to prevent, as half our Garrison are in the Hospital; in our Letter of the 15th November, as you represent it impossible to stay at Trivedy, we order'd the Troops in, as it is in vain to expect any thing from an Army without a Commander.

Genl. Lre. 15th Nov. Mr. Lawrence's Lre. 23d. Novr.

Your Letter of the 23d November renews the old Subject, gives your Opinion that the Blacks are not such formidable Enemies and mentions that you are sorry we did not fall on the Morattas, desires an Explanation of the Paragraph of taking Places, says Mr. Saunders's Orders were positive for Captain Clive not to join you or send the heavy Cannon, when you was in the Neighbourhood of Chetteput, that the Nabob is ready to settle his Accounts & that Mr. Palk musters the Seapoys and is indefatigable, that the Pay of severals was regulated before you came to the Army, that you did not care to alter it for fear of their leaving you, but that you thought it might be attempted.

In regard to the Blacks you wonder that they should appear so formidable Enemies to the English more than our Neighbours, that we must comply with their Humours & discover our fear of their leaving us. Was a pitch'd battle to be fought, or a particular Place to be defended what you observe is right, but the Nabob's Case is quite different, he has a large Country of great Extent, the Harvest is near, every one knows the precipitate Marches of Moratta Horse, that they plunder, burn & destroy wherever they go, they don't move in large Bodies, but Stragling Parties Our Troops are Infantry; if you can get Advice of them, before your Troops can be up

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with them they are gone; this it is that makes these People of so much Consequence; The Nabob's Revenues depend upon the Rents, if the Husbandmen, Villages and Fields destroyed he is ruin'd, this the Enemy will attempt, this the Nabob must endeavour to prevent, and this should make us cautious of falling upon them at a time when there might be reason to suspect, but no Certainty of their Designs to join the adverse Party.

To explain what we mean by taking Places we have already as Reasons for keeping the Field intimated the Service it would be to the Nabob to reduce the Places, by which means the Countries adjacent would be secur'd to him, in our Letter of the 15th November we mention'd that from the Taking of Arcot to the Reduction of Changleput, the Expence of Time and Loss of Men was so very inconsiderable that we cou'd not think it impracticable to take Forts, where we were advis'd they were scarce of Men, Ammunition and Provisions, and we were the more convinc'd of this by the Reduction of Changleput, a Place by Situation excessively strong, a double Wall, double Ditch and Morass almost all round, which renders access to it difficult, it was reduc'd by about one hundred new Recruits & some Seapoys with a few Horse. Genl. Lre. 15th Nov.

As you are pleas'd to mention Chetteput we will point out what has pass'd on this Subject; in your Letter of the 22d August thus "and poor 3. 5. 6. 7. 8 (vizt. Arcot, Changleput, Chetteput, Wondevash, Conjeveram) are excellent Soldiers and whom "I would gladly provide for are not regarded". Your Letter of the 31st August to this purpose, "The Nabob is dispos'd to serve 3. 5. 6. 7. 8" (vizt. Arcot, Changleput, "Chetteput, Wondivash & Conjeveram) I hope I shall have your Orders to night in consequence of the Advantage we have gain'd". Your Letter of the 26th September "This is the way to insure the Morattas & remove the Want of Money by speaking "civilly to Wondivash & Chetteput". As Captain Clive was engag'd in reducing Saudet Bander or Covelon, and Changleput suspecting the French would fling in Reinforcements you was to march this way so as to be in a Situation to support him or move towards St. David as Occasion requir'd, this was executed, the Army set down before Wondivash, the Place soon came to a Composition greatly serviceable to the Nabob, by Letters and Express Camels he press'd extremely the Reduction of Chetteput; we were inform'd there was but a very small Force in it, and as Covelon and Changleput had just been taken it was reasonably suppos'd that it would strike a Terrour; The President, of the 3d. October, writes "The Nabob would be extremely "pleas'd if Wondivash and Chetteput were reduc'd to his Obedience; I fancy they "would surrender as I hear they have but a small Force in them". In that of the 4th "Chetteput I am inform'd is very weak, ten Europeans and twenty Topasses; "the Nabob is very earnest for this Place and indeed it would secure a great Part of the Country". In one of the 7th "If possible go to Chetteput, I am told your appearing there" is sufficient and in another of the 8th "The Nabob seems to "think the taking of Chetteput, would be of infinite Service to him and I believe "would look upon it as the most glorious Thing you could do for him, The Garrison "is reported excessive weak, if you could finish your Campaign with this and "without a great deal of Trouble I really believe it would help his Affairs". Your "Letter of the 4th October. "Captain Clive has wrote me that Changleput has surren- "der'd and that you have given him positive Orders to return with the heavy Cannon "to Covelon which renders my besieging Chetteput impracticable if it was advisea- "ble" In your Letter of the 23d October "but I believe Mr. Saunders can inform "you that he positively forbid Captain Clive from joining me or sending me the "heavy Cannon when I was in the Neighbourhood of Chetteput though I wrote they "might be wanted." In the Course of the Correspondence it does not appear that you once wrote for or mention'd Captain Clive's joining you or heavy Cannon.

Mr. Lawrence's Letter 22d. Augt.
Mr. Lawrence's Letter 31 Augt.
The President's Letter 3d. October
Do. Do. 4th. Do.
Presidt's Lre. 7th Octr.
Do. Do. 8th. do.
Mr. Lawrence's Letter 4th. Octr.
Do. Do. 23d. do.

Captain Clive having finish'd his glorious Campaign desir'd Leave to return into Garrison; it was granted; and though you had never mention'd heavy Cannon, The President not knowing whether it might not be wanted wrote to Captn Clive the 2nd October (inclosing a Letter for you) "Major Lawrence is at Wondivash, it won't "be amiss to write him to know if he wants the heavy Cannon". Captain Clive's

The President to Capn Clive 2d. Octr.

—FORT St. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.—

Capt. Clive's Letter 4th. Octr.

Reply dated 4th. October is "I wrote three days ago about the heavy Cannon to the "Major and receiv'd his answer but he has since inform'd me matters will be made "up amicably at Wondivash I suppose therefore therefore [Sic] there will be no "Occasion for them & have therefore order'd them to Madrass". The President's "Letter to you of the 2d October I have wrote to Captain Clive to know of you if "you have any Occasion for the heavy Cannon". And if these had not been sufficient you might have been supply'd with more from Arcot which is not a greater Distance than Changleput.

The President's Letter 2d. Octr.

The Nabob's Accounts are adjusting, we wait for the Camp Accounts for the month of July.

We are extremely sensible of Mr. Palk's Integrity and Assiduity in an employ which must be very troublesome, his Orders from us are to discharge the Expences of the Army according to the several Musters made; The Army has been a considerable Time abroad, sometimes the Communication cut off and we have always found it difficult to get Accounts. By publick Discourses we have Reason to believe that there has been some Irregularity in regard to the Seapoys, Cooleys and Bullocks, as you have the Command and are on the Spot we must rely on you that the Seapoys are regularly muster'd, that no more Cooleys are charg'd than are actually in Service and that you will advise what you think it reasonable to allow for the Train and other Bullocks, and put the Troop of Horse on a reasonable Batta.

Mr. Lawrence's Letter 30th. Novr.

Your Letter of the 30th November advising it was necessary to appoint a Commanding Officer some time before the Troops took the Field, desiring to know whether you could not be serviceable in the other Settlements, recommending a Troop of Horse the Pay of Madrass Prisoners and for Horses kill'd.

The Company's Orders are positive to reduce the Troop as soon as Affairs admit; at present, as you think them necessary, what there are of them may be continued, We shall adjust the account of Horses kill'd that the Owners may be satisfied.

The President's Letter 4th. Octr.

In regard to the Men you mention, the President wrote you under Date the 4th October to gratify them as you pleas'd.

We have now pass'd through the whole Correspondence and as before mention'd don't observe any thing that lessens your Authority or is contrary to the Tenour of your Commission. In considering the whole we observe that the two Things you intimate as such are that you expected to have the naming the Officers to the Companies, and that your Advice has been neglected and in this you think your Authority lessen'd. By the Manner Mr. Ripington came out it could never be design'd that he should supercede and give us Leave to appeal to you whether you did not tell the Gentlemen at home that the sending Officers out would be a Hardship on those abroad.

In regard to the Difference in Opinion we shall always be glad you will give us yours, if it differs from ours We shall not be the least disgusted but still think ourselves equally oblig'd to You, for it would be madness to imagine any Gentleman should not give his real Sentiments and it is but reasonable we should expect the same Rule from you, when we give you Our orders, the Result of our General Sentiments, there is no just Cause to call it a Slight, as We equally with you have nothing more sincerely at heart than the Welfare of our Honble Master's Affairs.

At a time when the Honour of our Nation, the Welfare of our Honble Masters Affairs, perhaps the Happiness or Misery not only of Ourselves in general, but those that may come after us (for certainly on the Success of Affairs at this Critical Juncture depends the good or ill Fate of the Settlements on this Coast) is at Stake, at a time when an Enemy is in Sight & you know that Major Kinneer is dead, that Captain DeGingins (who has very honourably staid two Years 'till an Officer came out) is going home, that Captain Clive's Health is so bad that he must probably do the same, & that there is no Commanding Officer but yourself; At this Juncture we cannot think it honourable in you to ask, nor can we grant your Request of laying down the Service and going to Europe; We have no power to annul the Contract you have

made with the Company, but desire that you take the Command of the Army as the present Occasion renders it much more necessary than your Presence can be at any other Settlement.

In your Letter of the 21st. September you say that if you are supported in your Authority you are ready to serve which we always have and ever shall do; in regard to the Military, we desire you will recommend, and in this we are assur'd you will have the Pleasure of preferring every one according to their Rank, as it is the Company's Orders from which we cannot deviate except in cases where there is a just Objection to the Conduct of such Officers.

In a Civil Capacity you have a Seat in Council we request you will upon all Occasions give us your Sentiments which we shall digest with our own and the General Opinion will be our Plan for Operations. In the greatest Councils debating on the most important Affairs it seldom happens but there is a Diversity of Opinions but it is never the Occasion of the least Umbrage as the Point in view is the General Good, therefore should this at any time be the Case we hope it will not in the least affect that Cement we wish for. We shall constantly communicate to you whatever occurs.

It is our Opinion that a Correspondence of this Nature can no ways be serviceable to our Honble Masters Interest, it would be a cruel Reflection that those who are constantly studying our Ruin should by our Divisions be furnished with any means to forward it; Harmony would remove the very Shadow of it; We therefore think that even should there be a little Uneasiness amongst us, it would be better to drop it till a more seasonable Time.

We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants, Thomas Saunders, [*Lacuna in the original*] Charles Boddam, Henry Powney, Alexander Wynch, John Smith.

THOs. SAUNDERS
CHAs. BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR. WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

Fort St. George
11th. Decem̃ 1752

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH.

Thursday the 14th. The President lays before the Board two Letters from Richard Starke Esqr advising that the Morattas plunder burn and destroy wherever they come and that the French have taken the Field, which being consider'd a Letter is now wrote and sent to Messrs. Starke and Lawrence as follows.

TO RICHARD STARKE &
STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQRS

Gentlemen

By Letters from Mr. Starke of the 9th at Night and 10th Instant we are advis'd that the Morattas are burning and destroying the Country, that the French are abroad and that the Nabob who is at Trividy is very pressing for Assistance, we therefore think it extremely necessary you send all the Force you can to his Assistance and upon any Emergencies act as you judge proper for the Good of the Service, as it will be impossible to wait for Orders from hence. We wish we could send you Officers but

after giving Commissions, as Mr. Lawrence desir'd to all the Voluntiers, we have only in Garrison.

Captain Scrimsour. Sick
Captain Vareilles.
Captain Maskelyne On Parole
Captain Clive Sick.
Lieutt. DeMare
Ensign Patterson Sick.
Ensign Sommers
Ensign Green Sick.

Artillery Officers
Lieutt. Pero.
Lieutt. Merryman

We have wrote Mr. Lawrence fully by Cattemaran and he is very sensible we have not a single Officer to relieve him. By Boat we send you one hundred Arms.

We are

Gentlemen

Your most humble Servants

Fort St George,
14th December 1752.

THOMAS SAUNDERS
CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

P.S.

Inclos'd is a List of Officers according to their Rank for the fourteen Companies on this Establishment besides those for the Troop of Horse Ingeram, Maddepollam and the West Coast agreeable to what Major Lawrence wrote the President by which you will perceive the whole is compleat ; The Lieutenant for the Troop should be appointed out of the Lieutenants we cannot well judge who is proper.

Two General Letters from Messrs Starke & Lawrence and one from Major Lawrence are read as follows vizt

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR — Fort St. David 7th Decr. 1752.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA COUNCIL OF
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have the honour of your Letter of the 1st mentioning the Possibility there is of Gazedey Cawn's Death becoming a Cause of fresh Troubles in this Province if Salabat Jung should succeed to his Honours. This makes us of Opinion with you that it will be absolutely necessary to keep our Forces as collected as possible, especially as a large European Force may be expected from the Northward, should the Schemes of Mr Dupliex succeed.

Major Lawrence has already given his Opinion in a Letter to the Governour of November 16th about sending the Nabob's Prisoners from Arcot to Changleput which we think a very proper place. But as the Garrison of St. David (which ought to

consist at least of a hundred Men) is a sufficient Guard for twice the Number of Prisoners there, we conceive the removing them will be a needless Trouble and Expence for it will require our whole Army as an Escort the French having at this Time two separate Bodies which join'd would equal our Number.

We imagine there is not the least doubt to be made of the King of Tanjour's being our firm Friend and are pretty certain the Alliance you mention is concluded so that it seems best to act with this Consideration and Major Lawrence wrote the Governour word October the 13th that if the Tanjoreans and Polygars would join us, The Nabob is more than a Match for the French, Mysoreans & Morattas, we are still of this Opinion though the Phousdar of Vellour be added, however if he is sincere we make no doubt but the Nabob will gladly embrace any Opportunity of coming to Terms that will appear agreable to the English.

Should Salabat Jung move this way we conceive it will be best to meet him at the Frontiers if milder Methods won't take Place, which we almost despair of, as M$^{r.}$ Dupliex by rejecting every Offer of Peace (however Advantagious) seems determin'd on our Ruin if he can bring it about. Our Settlements will be in no Danger while we have an Army in the Field but the Mischief is while the Enemy is superiour in Horse there will be no keeping the Morattas from plundering so that in this Case those on the Spot can only act for the best as the Thing admits of no certain Plan; Captain Dalton join'd by Tanjour Horse is able to manage the Trichenopoly Country but we can't conceive the dividing our Force further (however necessary to assist Abdul Vahab Cawn) will be proper since the main Point in this Time of Trouble is to secure an Advantage in the Field. How cruelly would a Defeat affect the Nabob's Interest? Then the want of money on the other Hand equally embarrasses us. The only method we can fall on in this Critical Affair is that the Commanding Officer of the Troops shall lend what Assistance he can for collecting Money but that all Detach'd Parties shall be under his Command. In regard to the taking Wondivash Chetteput & Gingee we think Waldour ought to be first reduc'd it being a Key to the Rest which would then fall of Course but how far the weakening our Army by taking and keeping Garrisons will strengthen the Nabob's Interest when he has so many Enemies to apprehend is a matter that requires much Consideration and the Motions of the Enemy at our first Outset ought to determine us more than any thing that can occur at present; it will suffice if we are prepar'd to attempt any thing; The Nabob told Major Lawrence that he did not want to take Wondivash and compounded with the Killedar for a Sum of Money; how will it agree with common Justice to attack him again so soon without fresh Cause of Complaint.

Major Lawrence has already mention'd that the Musters are made by M$^{r.}$ Palk which he is certain are just and has offer'd his Assistance in Employing no more Cooleys Lascars or Bullocks than are necessary which Mr Palk will endeavour to get as cheap as possible. As to dieting the Men, Major Lawrence thinks you are better judges than he of the Batty that is sufficient, however he proposes that if a Person of Integrity was appointed with a handsome Allowance for this Employ and bound to give in his Accounts upon Oath from whence he is not to have the least Profit, 'tis certain the Company would pay no more than is necessary & if every Post relating to the Military was regulated in this Manner we should be able to judge of the Difference.

At the last General Muster we ourselves with M$^{r.}$ Palk saw every man that pass'd at the Garden House where the Bulk of the Army is and Messrs: Drake and Sloper had the Charge of those at S$^{t.}$ David and Cuddalore at the same time so that none but effective Soldiers & Seapoys are paid.

If we have Intelligence of any considerable Body being in motion we shall certainly send Parties after them to prevent their taking any Advantage, and the erasing of Covelon (our Letter concerning which we hope you have receiv'd) will disappoint the Enemy' Scheme.

——*FORT St. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*——

All is quiet this way. The Nabob continues at Trivedy and we are making every thing ready to take the Field as soon as the Season will permit. We must beg a Supply of Officers being greatly in want of them.

We are with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and most

humble Servants.

RICHD STARKE
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Fort St. David 8th. December 1752.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA COUNCIL OF

FORT ST GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We are favour'd with your Letter of the 4th. and agree in Opinion that the French and Morattas will omit no Opportunity of destroying the Country. As we can't conceive there is the least Probability of the Nabob's engaging Moraree in his Service we know of no other Method of opposing his Enemies but by Endeavouring to distress them as they do him and 'tis certain Tanjour Horse will be extremely useful on this Occasion.

The Nabob writes word that the Morattas are within fifteen Coass of Trivedy which will render it absolutely necessary for our Troops to take the Field very soon and as Major Lawrence positively declines the Command 'till he hears from Europe unless all the Grievance he says he has complain'd of to Mr. Saunders are redress'd we must beg you'll nominate somebody for it immediately that the Service may not suffer. We are getting every thing in readiness but are sorry to acquaint you that our Garrison is very sickly as will appear by the inclos'd Return. Our Hircars are now in the Enemy's Camp at Villenour and others dispers'd over the Country so that we shall have the earliest Intelligence of their Motions and will act accordingly.

We are with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient Servants

RICHARD STARKE
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Fort St. David 9th. December 1752

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA COUNCIL OF

FORT ST GEORGE

Honble Sir & Sirs

Having often remonstrated to you my Incapacity of acting any longer at the Head of the Army giving for Reason that my Advice had never been follow'd, nor my Command properly supported. I was in hopes you would have determin'd either

to redress my Grievances, permit me to retire or have call'd me to Council to answer for my Conduct. As I see no one yet appointed to succeed me [and] the Troops almost ready to take the Field, I could not forb[ear] mentioning this Subject to You once more as nothing could give me greater Pain than to see the Service of my Honourable Masters neglected, and let me beg of You Gentlemen that if it appears to you, I have done any thing amiss from the Time I came into this Country to the present; You'll be kind enough to point it out, that I may either answer it or acknowledge my Error.

I am with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and most humble

Servant

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

As to the foregoing Letter from Major Lawrence we think the General Letter wrote to him the 11th Instant, makes it needless to take any particular Notice of it as that is very explicit on the Subject and in regard to those from Messrs. Starke and Lawrence jointly, Draught of a Letter in answer thereto is now settled and order'd to be transcrib'd for signing Copy whereof follows.

To RICHARD STARKE &

STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQRS

Gentlemen

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 7th & 8th.

The Letter of Mr. Lawrence of the 16th November in answer to the President's wherein he intimated that he judg'd it unsafe to have so many Prisoners at Arcot, came to hand.

We are glad that 'tis your Opinion the King of Tanjour's & Poligar's Alliance with the Nabob is more than a Match for the French, Mysoreans and Morattas; Captn Dalton in his Letter of the 2d Instant mentions that he is assur'd Monagee is ready to join the Nabob with one thousand Horse and that the Poligars have taken Madura, The President has wrote the King of Tanjour, it won't be amiss for the Nabob to do it.

In regard to Salabat Jung it is certain that the French will do their utmost with him to injure us & that the Obligation he is under to them for their Troops we have great Reason to believe will but too much facilitate their Designs; whether he may come into this Province is a Doubt, the last News is that the Morattas had surrounded him, it's possible Affairs may come to an Accommodation, Should he march this way the following particulars require our serious Consideration. Whether so large a Force of Europeans and Country Troops join'd to those already the Nabob's Enemies would not be too powerful, as that of Europeans would be greatly superiour to ours and that of Country Troops infinitely more so. Whether this Large Body of Troops dispers'd with Judgment through the Province would not prevent the Nabob from collecting a single Cash, and in such Condition, what Efforts he could make against the Enemy and how defray the Expences of our Troops which we shall not be able to support; Whether the Nabob thus perplex'd will not submit to very moderate Terms without considering us and the Tanjoreens be so intimidated as to withdraw, in this Case we shall have the whole Burthen on ourselves. The French succeeded against Nazer Jung but it was by Treachery and when they had no Europeans to oppose. We desire your Opinion

—FORT S^T. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.—

Gazedey Cawn in his last Letter desires us to continue firm in our Alliance to Mahomed Allee.

The Moratta General writes to the same purpose.

Salabat Jung enjoins us to assist Mahomed Ally and not to fight against the French but make Peace with them. Our Answer will be that we have not been wanting in our Endeavours and that the most effectual Method will be for him to give them the same Orders.

The lessening Expences is what has long engag'd our Attention, in Dieting the Military we think that it is better the Company be upon a Certainty. We desire your Opinion if 6 fanams ℔ day is unreasonable, any Fraud that may have been in the Seapoys, Cooleys & Lascars may be prevented by mustering, the Charges of hiring & feeding Bullocks and the Troop of Horse are unreasonable ; We shall be oblig'd to you to regulate this on a more moderate Footing.

We mention'd to you the taking of Chetteput, Gingee and Wondivash as Things necessary ; we agree with you that 'tis impossible to fix a certain Plan 'till we see the Enemy's Motions, M^r. Starke writes in his Letter of the 10th to the President that the Morattas are about Trivedy and that the Nabob presses for our Troops ; by all means let them join him immediately, if they have not already, Our Distance and the Uncertainty of Letters and the Emergencies that may happen render it impossible to give any positive Directions, you will therefore act as you judge for the Good of the Service ; by Advices we hear the French are divided into two separate Bodies, we suppose with a design to act in two different Places, you will if possible do the same as tis not practicable for us to send Detachments from hence having neither Men nor Officers.

Inclos'd is a Letter to Captain Dalton which if you approve please to forward & write him to act, and the Nabob should write to Kiroudy Cawn.

We are sorry the Nabob cannot engage the Moratta, and think he should endeavour to do it as we are apprehensive it will be impossible to prevent their ruining the Country.

With this is a Letter to the Nabob and Extract of the several Detachments abroad, desire him to send us Orders on the several Amuldars for the Monthly Payment of it, he writes the President he should give us Bills on the Several Amuldars for four Lacks of Rupees ; we should be glad you would remind him of it. The Seapoys and Lascars are not inserted in Captain Dalton's Detachment as we have not receiv'd the Returns.

We have wrote M^r. Lawrence fully in regard to his Command and that we should support him, we can add no more than that as we have no Officer to relieve him, his acting must be extremely serviceable to the Honble Company's Affairs.

Inclos'd is Captain Dalton's Cypher.

We are

Fort S George — Gentlemen

15 December 1752 — Your most humble Servant

THOMAS SAUNDERS
CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

———FORT S^T. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.———

Captain Dalton at Trichinopoly writes that he is inform'd Moraree's Design is to join Innis Cawn and encamp near the Nabob to endeavour to make him pay the Raja his Money or threaten to go over to the French, but the Raja very well knows the Nabob is incapable of doing that at present and has at times intimated that he would be satisfy'd with any reasonable Security but complains that Kiroudy Cawn has never made any Proposals that way, on the other hand the latter declares he has offer'd all the Security he can desire which the Raja refuses and insists on being immediately paid not only all his Charges on the Nabob's Account but also a Crore of Rupees for the Expence of his Household Troops, That he still continues in Syringham and probably waits there to see the Event of Moraree's Motions who march'd with his Army towards Wootatoor where its said he was join'd by Innis Cawn and it is said he is to receive a large Sum there from the French, whose Vakeel is with him ; that he (Dalton) has receiv'd certain News that Madura surrender'd to the Moravar Poligar who is now preparing to march towards the Mysore Country which may occasion a Diversion and is so much the more fortunate as the Veloor Phousdar is using all the means in his Power to prejudice the Nabob with the Daloway.

Captain Sanderson at Arcot advises that a Body of French and Morattas are plundering the Country thereabouts as is also a Party belonging to the Veloor Phousdar and that he has receiv'd Intelligence they have a Design upon Muslepauk which if not speedily reinforc'd will probably fall into their Hands.

A Letter from the President intended to be sent to Messrs: Starke and Lawrence is read acquainting them of the Advice receiv'd from Captain Sanderson of the Enemy's plundering about Arcot, that he is of Opinion the French will act in two separate Bodies & that their present View is to distress the Nabob for money by destroying the Country and that therefore it would be proper we should have a Detachment this way to act with Abdul Vahab Cawn. That the Nabob should write to the King of Tanjour to quicken him as this is the time he may be of infinite Service by joining Captain Dalton and tis to no purpose to amuse any longer with Promises. Which the Board approve.

THO^S. SAUNDERS
CHA^S: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
A^R WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R. PRESIDENT.
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. **Monday The 18th**

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Balazarow wherein he confirms the Death of Gazedy Cawn and says that he must terminate matters with Salabat Jung by a Battle, exhorting us to continue firm in our Alliance to Anaverdee Cawn. Other Advices mention a Skirmish between them and that an Accommodation ensued.

A Letter from the Nabob Anaverdee Cawn is also read acquainting us that notwithstanding all his Endeavours to engage Moraree in his Interest or to return to his own Country he has not been able to succeed but the Moratta declares he will join the French, in this distress he places his whole Resort in us and desires that Major Lawrence with the Troops may be order'd to join him.

Letters from Captain Dalton say that Moraree has wrote to Kiroudy Cawn that he hears the Nabob and English, intend to attack his Camp before he joins the French but that he would have the Nabob consider well before he does him any Prejudice. That the Daloway seems to have given over all Thoughts of moving from Syringham having brought most of his Camp back there & sent for Troops from

Dindegale to join him, he also collects all the Grain about Trichinopoly even within reach of the Guns to prevent the Storeing the Magazine there; That Kiroudy Cawn has order'd his Horse to prepare for Camp and he (Dalton) has sent out some Tents; one hundred Seapoys and a Field Piece which has put the Moravar Polygar into such Spirits that he has advanc'd on the Mysore Troops at Dindegale and says he will drive them to Syringapatam. That Monajee having quarrel'd with his Master the King of Tanjour had withdrawn from his Service, but the King sensible of the Loss of so good an Officer had sent two great Men to fetch him back and Matters seem to be accommodated, but their Horse are not yet come to the Nabob's Assistance.

A Letter from $M^{r.}$ John Brohier read on the Subject of razing Saudet Bander, giving it as his Opinion that it will require some time and many Workmen besides a Body of Men to protect them whereon it is Agreed to write to $Mess^{rs}$: Starke and Lawrence for their further Opinion on the Demolition of that Fort which we now find will be a Work of Time and some Risque as the Enemy will very probably make an attempt upon it unless the Workmen can be well supported by a sufficient Body of Troops for upon examining the Walls they are found to be double and the Interval fill'd with Sand which renders it impracticable to blow them up. And Draught of a Letter to the said Gentlemen on the foregoing Subject and communicating to them the Advices receiv'd since they were last wrote to is now read and approv'd, Copy whereof follows

To RICHARD STARKE AND

STRINGER LAWRENCE $ESQ^{RS.}$

Gentlemen

The following are Advices we have receiv'd & which seem greatly to regard our Affairs.

Gazedy Cawn is beyond doubt dead, Balazarow wrote the President to continue firm in his Alliance to Anaverdee Cawn, mention'd that the Death of Gazedey Cawn had made a great Alteration in Affairs and that they must be decided by a Battle with him & Salabat Jung, Advices from thence say there has been a small Skirmish and that an Accommodation has succeeded, it is reported Salabat Jung's Army will march towards Woodagary.

The Nabob writes the President that he had offer'd Moraree eight Lacks and a half to be paid out of the Revenues provided he would continue his Alliance with him, that he would not agree to it but declar'd himself for the French; That the French Governour had given him the Province; he desires the President will write to Moraree, he says 'tis better for him to conclude a Peace with the French rather than be oblig'd to submit to Moraree and the Mysore King, this he says he does not believe they will agree to without he is content with what they will give him and do as they direct, he therefore desires our Forces may join him and that the two Conjeverams, Manamangulum and Trivaloor which produce yearly two Lacks of Pagodas remain under the Management of the Amuldars till the Company's Debt is clear'd, he says he offer'd the King of Tanjour Verdachilum in case he would assist him. We desire you will confer with the Nabob on these Affairs and give us your Opinion, as well as on Covelon which the Engineer reports to us has double Walls fill'd up with Sand whereby 'tis impossible to blow it up and that it must be pull'd down which will take up a considerable Time and we imagine must be supported by Troops.

We are Gentlemen

Your most humble servants

THOMAS SAUNDERS

CHARLES BODDAM

HENRY POWNEY

Fort $S^{t.}$ George ALEXANDER WYNCH

$18^{th.}$ December 1752 JOHN SMITH.

——FORT $S^{T.}$ GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.——

As there is now no longer any Reason to doubt of the Mysore and Moratta Designs to distress the Nabob, the President is desir'd to write to the Daloway for a Categorical Answer whether we are to regard him as a Friend or Enemy, if the former, as a Proof of it we insist on his immediately recal[l]ing Moraree & prevent his plundering the Country, otherwise we shall esteem both as the Nabob's Declared Enemys and treat them as such.

The President produces the following Letter intended to be sent Vizt

To Salabat Jung in answer to one from him wherein he tells us to cease our hatred to the French, acquainting him that we are at Peace with the French and are only endeavouring to accommodate Matters between them and Nabob Anaverdy Cawn, desiring he will order Mr. Dupliex to cease Hostilities against him which will be the most effectual Means of settling the Province that all we desire is to have the Jageers granted us by his Predecessors confirm'd and our Trade supported that we shall always strictly observe our Alliance with the Circar and that as we find our People cannot get Admittance to him we desire he will send a Person to us, whom we shall inform of every thing.

To Balazarow assuring him of our strict Friendship, that we shall continue our Assistance to Nabob Anaverdy Cawn and that we desire he will send immediate Orders to Moraree to desist from his present Proceedings.

Also one sent this morning to Messrs. Starke and Lawrence advising them as follows. That some Parties of Morattoes are about Conjeveram and he has therefore desir'd Abdul Vahab Cawn to keep with his Forces between that Place and Changleput as the best means to prevent their plundering. That by Advices from Pondicherry it seems probable they may rendevouz at Gingee and from thence detach their different Commands; That 'tis said they have a Design against Saudet Bander and Changleput, which Places have two Months Provision in Store but it will be impossible to send any Reinforcements there from hence. That the Engineers are of Opinion it will take up a Month to demolish the former however Workmen are collecting as fast as possible to be sent there but it is probable an Attempt may be made from Pondicherry. That it will be proper to ask Moraree whether he acts as Friend or Enemy to the Nabob.

Also the following Letters vizt.

To Captain Dalton that whatever the Daloway may pretend Moraree if certainly in his pay and acts by his orders and if he should join the French (of which & his Motions Messrs. Starke and Lawrence will advise him) it will put their Intentions out of Doubt and in that Case if a favourable Opportunity should offer of attacking the Mysoreans, by all means to do it, however such an Attempt must not be made unless it can be done without exposing the Fort to the least Danger.

To Captain Sanderson at Arcot, Lieutenant Innis at Changleput and Lieutt. Smith at Covelon amongst other necessary Directions that if any such small Parties of the Enemy should come within a moderate Distance of the respective Forts as they may reasonably imagine themselves capable of defeating, by all means to attack them but on no account to expose the Places they command in to any Danger.

All which the Board approve.

THOS. SAUNDERS
CHAS: BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY
AR WYNCH
JOHN SMITH.

The President communicated to the several Gentlemen of Council a Letter receiv'd from Major Lawrence wherein he consents to reassume the Command of the Army and is as follows. 18th.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*——

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr

Fort St David 16th. December 1752

Sir

I have receiv'd your Letter of the 13th as that from the Governour & Council dated the 11th is very long it will take up some time in the answering, so I must beg You'll acquaint the Gentlemen I am getting every thing in readiness for the Troops to take the Field and will resume the Command as is desir'd. Tis my opinion we should first seek and engage the Enemy before we attempt the Reduction of strong Places and if we consider the unsafe Condition of an Army without Patroles the Number of Horse I mention'd for that purpose wont appear large, the Nabobs Victory at Markistna was in a great Measure owing to the Enemy's Failure in this particular.

I am with great Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

S. Lawrence.

20th. Sign'd and sent General Letter to Messrs. Starke and Lawrence inclosing the Opinion of Mess. Brohier & Vareilles in relation to the razing of Saudet Bander and observing again that it is to be apprehended the Enemy will endeavour to impede the Demolition and desiring to be inform'd whether they can relieve it if such an Attempt should be made and also that they will give their Opinion in regard to a Plan for the Nabob's Army in case the Enemy should rendevouz at Gingee.

" Letter from the President to Major Lawrence sent as follows.

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr.

Sir

I have receiv'd your Letter of the 16th and have acquainted the Gentlemen that you are getting every thing ready and will take the Command of the Army.

The unexpected Turns Affairs have taken render it impossible to form any settled or tolerable Judgment, The King of Tanjours joining us with his Horse seems to me the only Thing that can prevent the Morattas from entirely ravaging the Country; by Captain Dalton's Letter he moves very slowly; I fancy it would not be amiss to quicken him by the Nabobs writing that if he does not join him he shall be oblig'd to deliver up Trichinopoly to the Mysore King. If you approve this speak to the Nabob.

I am sorry to find the erasing of Saudat Bander will in the Engineer's Opinion take up so much time, tis my Opinion they will endeavour to prevent it. Give me your Opinion of it.

I believe the Company's Horse don't amount to the Number you mention, The Nabob I suppose will readily supply it and we may mount them. Repington I believe wo[uld] be glad to have the Command of them.

Tis said Gingee is the Place design'd for their Rendezvous, it is very well situated for it, Could they after the Junction of the Tanjour Horse be brought to an Engagement as you mention I see no Reason we have to doubt the Success of it; but I believe their Scheme will be by detach'd Parties to ruin the Country.

It is said that Salabat Jung is greatly distress'd for Money and that he intends to apply to the King of Mysore.

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*———

We are terribly perplex'd in regard to Officers as well in Garrison as abroad, Captain Sanderson at Arcot and Lieut. Innis at Changleput are both down, here are two or three Officers of Ships of good Character who would engage, I believe it will be better to entertain them.

Please to acquaint the Nabob that his People will neither pay Batta or diet the French Prisoners.

I am

Sir

Fort St. George — Your most obedient Servant

20th December 1752 — THOMAS SAUNDERS.

Letter from the President to Major Lawrence sent as follows 21st

TO STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR.

Sir

The Letters not going away last Night gives me an Opportunity of writing again by this Cattemaran.

This Morning came in Mr. Symmonds who has been on Detachment to Arcot and Changleput; He reports that the Troops of the Nabob under the Command of Abdul Vahab Cawn in all Places complain of receiving no pay and when order'd on Duty refus'd to act, there are several Parties of Seapoys & Rabble plundering between Arcot and Changleput which might be easily dispers'd, this leads me to consider what will be the Case by and by & judge it would be necessary you should talk seriously with the Nabob on his Affairs, he may be ask'd what Steps he imagines Salabat Jung will take, whether he can support an Interest with him to continue him in his Government, whether it is in his Power to get Moraree into his Interest, if not what means he proposes to prevent his Incursions which must hinder him from collecting the Revenues and in such Case how will he support his and our Army an Explanation of these particulars will enable us to judge of our own Affairs.

In talking with Mess̃ Brohier & Vareilles this morning concerning Covelon they are of Opinion that it will be a work of Time and that it will be necessary that it be supported by a strong Detachment, I shall therefore wait your Opinion as the preparing every thing will take up some time.

I am

Sir

Fort St. George — Your most obedient Servant

21st December 1752 — THOMAS SAUNDERS

Receiv'd General Letter from Messrs. Starke & Lawrence vizt. 23d

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &C. COUNCIL OF

FORT ST. GEORGE

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have been honour'd with your Letters of the 14th & 15th Instant, It were to be wish'd the King of Tanjour would join us instantly as it might in a great measure awe the Morattas who as you observe will destroy the Coun[try.]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*——

We give our Opinion freely on the several Points you desire & make no doubt but the French will do their utmost with Salabat Jung to injure us and that there is a Probability of their succeeding with him, His coming into this Province may likewise be expected which requires our serious Consideration, especially as they will be vastly superiour to us both in Europeans & Country People which would indeed make them very powerful. We think likewise that this large Body of Troops dispers'd with Judgment through the Province will prevent the Nabob from collecting a single Fanam, that in such Case he'll never be able to defray the Expences of our Troops, That it's possible he may submit to moderate Terms (if knows how) without us, and the Tanjoreens be intimidated which consequently throws the whole Burthen on ourselves. We shall never fail to communicate whatever occurs to us for the Good of the Service in any of the above Cases and take it for granted your General Plan will be calculated for the best; We then think the answer you intend for Salabat Jung is very proper though it must be confess'd his Letter is extremely whimsical.

We have wrote sufficiently about the lessening Expences but are really unable to determine whether six fans a Day is too much or little for dieting the Military, if there appears any Difficulty to you in this Point, suppose Mr. Lawrence's Method was practis'd for two or three Months we should then be better Judges, and He an Eye Witness.

The Seapoys Lascars & Cooleys are on the most regular & cheapest Footing, nor is it possible there can be any Fraud committed in the Paying them; It will be difficult to hire Carriage Bullocks at the former Price, The Morattas having made them so scarce but the Draught Bullocks and [Troop] may be fed by the Steward under the Regulation[s propos'd by] Major Lawrence & give in his Accounts upon Oath if you a [*a word torn*] of it; He says it's certainly the honestest Way between Maste[rs and] Servants & hopes it will take Place in every thing else, a [*a word lost*] where he is concern'd.

We need not mention that the taking strong [*a word lost*] weakens our Army in the Field so that if Salabat Jung [*a word lost*] expected, Had not we better collect our Force than divide it. [This] is only offer'd as an humble Opinion but your positive Order [*one word lost*] Major Lawrence will always be his Guide in the making [of] detachments.

The Letter you mention to Captain Dalton [is not] inclos'd so we are at a Loss what to write him; as we are con[fident] the Nabob will never get any Good of the Moratta 'tis [against] our Opinion he should be deem'd an Enemy and we des[ire] your positive Orders how to act.

Mr. Saunders's Letter is forwarded to the [Na]bob & will do our utmost to get Money from him as well [as] Bills on the several Amuldars for the payment of his Debt.

In your List of Officers Mr. Lawrence obs[erves] that Messrs. Crow and Harrison who have acted with great A[bility] as Ensigns by a Brevet from Captain DeGingins since the [year] 1751 are superceded; That Serjeant Nelson whom he recomm[ends] for his extraordinary Gallant Behaviour at Bahour is neg[lected] and People made Officers whom he never heard of and wh[ile] their Names appear to be Frenchmen. This he could not he[lp] taking notice of as you say the Preferments are by his Des[ire] 'Tis true he has often complain'd of the Want of Officers but [*one word missing*] not nominate any. We are very sorry you can't send us [*a word or two missing*] Supply as the Service may in all Probability suffer, Mr. Lawrence likewise begs Leave to acquaint you that he cannot be answerable for any Misfortune that may happen to the Army for want of Patroles unless the Troop is augmented so that we must beg you will give the necessary Orders for procuring Horses.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.*——

immediately and please to appoint an Officer as you doubtless are the best Judges who is most proper to fill up the several Vacancies.

Fort St David
20th December 1752

We are with the greatest Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient Humble Servants

RICHARD STARKE

STRINGER LAWRENCE

P.S. Captain Clarke has acquainted us that he is unable to take the Field and Captain Kilpatrick & Lieutenant Browne sick so that we shall be greatly distress'd for Officers.

Receiv'd General Letter from Messrs. Starke & Lawrence vizt 24th.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R.

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &C^A COUNCIL OF

FORT S^T GEORGE

Honble Sir & Sirs

We are honour'd with yours & M^r. Saunders's Letter by Cattemaran.

Tis certain Gauzedy Cawn is dead and the Nabob writes us that Bologee Gee Row has made Peace with Salabat Jung so that we are to expect the worst from that Quarter unless Divisions amongst themselves which may probably happen should retard their March.

The Morattas surpriz'd a Party consisting of twenty Seapoys yesterday, took their Convoy and A[nd] kill'd several, if they are to be deem'd Enemies from hence [We] beg your positive Orders and if possible a Plan of Action. The Letters to Captain Dalton with the severals to the Country Po[wers] are forwarded but as we are unacquainted with your Intentions concerning Trichinopoly and indeed the Nature of the Country Government 'tis impossible to add any Directions of our own, a Permission to open the Governour's Letters to Captain Dalton would enable us to judge better and we should be gl[ad] to have our Orders thereon as well as an Explanation concerning the heavy Cannon that he talks of sending to Deveco[tah] since we are of Op nion the Fort he commands ought to be rather strengthen'd than weaken'd at such a time as this.

Inclos'd is a Letter from the Nabob in whi[ch] you'll see his Plan of Action & we beg your Orders speedily after thoroughly weighing the different Interests as they will be our Guide. As to Covelon Major Lawrence says if Planks are put under the two Walls, it may be blown up easier than if it was entire and we continue to think it ought to be era[sed] The Nabobs Army will watch the Motions of the Enemy. 'Tis sa[id] the Morattas are at Gingee. The Nabob will ask Moraree whether he is an Enemy or a Friend as you desire. Inclos'd is a Petition from the Bombay Detachment who grumble to take the Field.

We beg your Directions concerning them.

We are with the greatest Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most humble & most Obedient

Servants

Fort St David
21st. December 1752

RICHARD STARKE
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1752.* ——

AT A CONSULTATION *Present*

Thursday
The 28th

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOV. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXANDER WYNCH. JOHN SMITH.

General Letter from Messrs. Starke and Lawrence read vizt.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA COUNCIL OF

FORT ST GEORGE

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 20th & Major Lawrence those of the Governour of the 20th & 21st

You have our Opinion concerning Covelon that it ought to be eraz'd & Major Lawrence's Method of doing it which will certainly be a Work of some time but it will be impossible to support the Workmen from hence unless the whole Body moves as by the best Accounts, the Enemy are full as strong in Europeans as we can be. However if you think it proper we should divide after this please to send positive Orders specifying the Numbers and who is the Officer to command the Separate Party.

Tis not in our power to form any fix'd Plan of Action, we must therefore beg you'll point out who are the Nabob's Enemies and Major Lawrence will do his utmost to distress them.

As we can never agree that Trichinopoly should be deliver'd up to the King of Mysore we are loath to give an Opening for any body to think so. The Nabob leaves nothing untry'd to quicken the King of Tanjour but his discharging [Mo]nagee we fear will retard his joining us. Perhaps Mr Saund[ers's] last Letter will have some Weight.

The Nabob has no Horses to give us so we must ag[ain] recommend the procuring a sufficient Number to compleat the Troop and as Major Lawrence absolutely refuses to concern himself in the appointing Officers we hope you'll nominate one for the Troop and act as you please in regard to bringing others in[to] the Service.

We shall write to the Nabob about Dieting the French Prisoners but we conceive it will be better to get our [In]telligence concerning his Affairs from another Quarter if possi[ble] as we have no Reason to depend on his Sincerity, however whe[n] Major Lawrence takes the Field he can ask him the Question Mr. Saunders desires.

Inclos'd is a List of twenty eight Men who were Prisoners at Madrass, we desire your Orders whether they may be paid twenty Pagodas apiece as that is not abo[ve] a third Part of their Pay.

We are with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most humble and most

Fort St. David

Obedient Servants

24th. December 1752.

RICHARD STARKE

STRINGER LAWRENCE